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AND
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BIRTHS.

At the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank House, Tientsin, on the 11th November, the wife of DUNCAN H. MACKINTOSH, of a son. [2679]

On the 26th November, at the Peak Hospital, the wife of Captain W. E. CLARKE, of a daughter. [2710]

DEATH.

At Kobe, on the 20th November, HENRY WALTER VINCE, aged 24.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 26th October arrived, per P. M. steamer *Peru*, on the 26th November (31 days); the English mail of the 30th October arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Bahilla*, on the 30th November (31 days); the American mail of the 3rd November arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, on the 30th November (27 days); and the Canadian mail of the 9th November arrived, per C. P. steamer *Empress of Japan*, on the 1st December (22 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Mr. G. de ennidrich, the Russian Vice-Consul at Kobe, committed suicide on the 16th November by shooting himself.

A special meeting of the Shanghai ratepayers will be held on Wednesday, the 2nd of December, to consider the question of an issue of dollar notes by the Municipal Council.

Baron R. Rosen, formerly Secretary of the Russian Legation in Tokyo, has been appointed Russian Minister to Japan vice the late M. Htrovo, who died some time since.

The Right Rev. Bishop Burdon, who is retiring from the See of Victoria (Hongkong), left for home on the 28th November. It is understood that after spending some time in Europe his Lordship will return to Hongkong to continue his literary work.

During the year ended 30th June last the United States exported to Japan \$27,056 (gold) worth of bicycles and \$8,645 worth to other Asiatic countries.

The question of the damages to be paid to M. Berthoin for the attack on his factory at Hoihow has, the *Avenir du Tonkin* says, been settled in principle between M. Dejoux and the Chinese Government.

It is reported that a Censor has memorialised the Throne, advocating the abolition of likin, and that the Emperor has referred the memorial to the joint consideration of the Board of Revenue and the Tsungli Yamén.—*N. C. Daily News*.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has had to make a very large contribution, it is said, to the fund for the restoration of the Yuenmingyuen Palace, and further heavy contributions will be exacted from him before he is allowed to leave the capital.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Seven hundred and seventy-one Japanese labourers who have been employed on the construction of the Siberian Railway returned to Nagasaki from Vladivostok on the 18th November. Another batch of four hundred and fifty-eight returned on the 19th.

We learn that the Secretary of the Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Limited, telegraphs that the situation of the company is serious, but not hopeless; and that the sum of \$40,000 is required, half at once, to put the machinery in working order again.—*N. C. Daily News*.

An application for bail, made by Mr. Lowder on behalf of Mrs. Carew, who has been committed for trial on the charge of murdering her husband, has been refused by the Judge of H.B.M. Court, Yokohama. The application was made to his Honour in chambers.

A native paper states that the Tsungli Yamén has recommended the raising of export duties to ten per cent. *ad valorem*, a step credited to the initiative of Sir Robert Hart. The idea, so say the Chinese, is that "by making native exporters pay ten per cent. duty, foreign importers cannot object to being treated in the same way."—*N. C. Daily News*.

At a general meeting of the shareholders of the Banco Espanol-Filipino, held at Manila on the 16th November, it was resolved to increase the capital of the Bank from \$900,000 to \$1,500,000, half of the additional capital to be issued on the 20th December and the other half on the 20th March next. The new shares will be allotted to the existing shareholders in proportion to their present holdings and any not accepted will be offered to the public. The new shares are to be issued at \$200 and the amount realised by the premium will be placed to the reserve fund.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 19th November, translated by the *Kobe Chronicle*, reads:—A telegram has been received to-day at the Foreign Office announcing that the ratifications of the German treaty were exchanged yesterday in Berlin. On the arrival of this news, Mr. Masjima, a barrister-at-law, filed in the Patent Bureau, on behalf of foreign clients, some 200 applications for patents. The Japanese Government failed to settle the question of legal jurisdiction in any case of dispute concerning patent rights, &c., before the exchange of the ratifications, and it is proposed to negotiate for a special convention.

The site acquired at Shanghai by a Japanese company, on which it was proposed to erect a cotton spinning factory, is shortly to be sold, and in view of the land boom at Shanghai it is expected that a profit of 50,000 *yen* will be realised. Progress is being made with the company's factory at Hyogo and it is hoped to start business in April.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

The Hongkong Government proposes to redeem the promise made by Sir William Des Vœux that the Gap Rock Light dues should be abolished when the cost of erecting the light had been covered. The manner in which the redemption is to be effected is peculiar. The Gap Rock dues are to be abolished, but to cover the deficit in the revenue thereby occasioned a general tax of the same amount is to be imposed on vessels entering the harbour.

The Varadero de Manila (Slipway Company) for the half year ended 30th September last made a gross profit of \$61,736, or \$21,923 more than in the preceding six months. The number of vessels that made use of the slip was twenty-three. Deducting interest and other charges the amount available was \$46,784, out of which it was proposed to pay a dividend of 3½ per cent., absorbing \$15,750, and to carry forward the balance. The report recognised that the earnings would justify a larger dividend, but it was considered more prudent to utilise the funds in the liquidation of the Company's indebtedness. The meeting of the shareholders was held on the 16th November, when the report and accounts were adopted.

Native reports from Peking represent a state of very strained relations between the Emperor and Li Hung-chang. His Excellency is said to have lost no time in speaking his mind to his august master on the subject of the Cassini Convention, which he declared had placed China under the foot of Russia. The interview is represented as having been decidedly stormy, the venerable statesman being markedly abrupt in his manner. Immediately afterwards Li went off to pour his laments into the ear of the Empress Dowager, who, whilst appreciating the cause of her old friend's anger, could offer him little but sympathy. It was after this that Li's ramble within the sacred precincts gave the Emperor a chance of showing his resentment. H.E.'s enemies are said to be highly pleased with the state of affairs and some of his weaker friends are going over to Weng Tung-ho.—*N. C. Daily News*.

With regard to the first shipment of machine made teas from Foochow, Messrs. Fraser, Ramsay & Co. write from Melbourne to the following effect under date of 16th October:— "The auction of machine teas was a great success yesterday, with the result that we got 4½d. for the dust, 5d. for the Souchong, 7½d. for the Pekoe, and 11d. for the Orange Pekoe. We need not say that you must not expect these prices again unless you can succeed in giving the teas more grip and point in the liquor, as it was only the fact of its being something new and something they can talk of to the grocers as a novelty that made the prices. All the buyers here say, 'can't you make Saryunes and Seumooos next year?'—and we think both for London, America, and here, teas with the rich juiciness of Saryunes, and with machine leaf and extra thick water, will do well, and if you can send a machine into Saryune, we think you would do as well there as any place."—*Echo*.

THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

(28th November.)

We are afraid the memorandum of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council on the military contribution is not calculated to advance the interests of the colony. In serious controversy nothing can be gained by attributing to an adversary statements or arguments he never made use of and then proceeding to attack them. This, however, is what the unofficial members have done, unintentionally of course, though it is difficult to understand how the Secretary of State's despatch could have been so misread. They say in the fourth paragraph of their memorandum:—"As this decision of the Secretary of State means practically that 'no matter however successful we may be in effecting economies in our expenditure, we will never be allowed to reduce the taxation or diminish the gross revenue raised in the colony, so as to affect the amount of the Military Contribution, or, in other words, that although the amount of our Military Contribution may increase with every increase in our revenue, it will never be allowed to diminish in proportion to any decrease in that revenue, we formally protest against it as unreasonable and unjust.'" Mr. CHAMBERLAIN never said anything of the kind attributed to him in the latter part of this paragraph. What Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said was that the 17½ per cent. payable as military contribution must be levied on the whole revenue, including municipal revenue, and that if any portion of the revenue was exempted it would become necessary to reconsider the percentage to be levied on the remainder. If the revenue as a whole declined owing to depression in trade the amount of the military contribution would automatically decline with it, and there is no warrant for saying that the home Government would increase the percentage to make up the deficiency. Whether the colony would be allowed to reduce the amount of the military contribution by reducing taxation is another question, but as there is unfortunately no prospect of a reduction in taxation, the tendency being all the other way, it is hardly worth discussing the matter from that point of view. Taking the revenue on the present basis of taxation, the amount payable as military contribution will rise or fall in proportion as the revenue rises or falls, for it is now levied as a fixed percentage. It is inequitable and oppressive that the municipal revenue should have to contribute to the military contribution, and some irritation on the part of the unofficial members and the community is excusable, but matters will not be mended, but rather the reverse, by attributing to the Secretary of State declarations he has never made.

(2nd December.)

At the meeting of the Legislative Council to-morrow a Bill is to be introduced entitled "An Ordinance to appropriate a percentage of seventeen and a half per centum of the colonial revenues as a contribution for the defence of the colony." Before the reading of the Bill there will probably be laid upon the table Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's reply to the protest of the unofficial members dated the 14th September last. The delay in placing the estimates for next year before the Council has probably been caused by waiting for the Secretary of State's decision on the points raised in the protest, and the fact of the Bill being now introduced in the shape indicated by the title would seem to show that the decision is adverse to the contentions of the unofficial

members, as indeed might have been surmised from the general policy of the Colonial Office. The unofficial members cannot consistently vote for the Bill, but the measure will no doubt be carried by the official majority. Whether the unofficials will deem it advisable to take any further action in the matter we do not know, but the experience gained in connection with the Singapore agitation is not encouraging, and we are not sanguine that anything would be gained in this colony by the unofficials resigning their positions. The question must not be regarded, however, as dead and buried with the passing of the Seventeen-and-a-half per cent. Bill. The idea of appointing a Commission to inquire into the government of the Crown Colonies has recently been mooted at home, and either in that or some other way it may be possible sooner or later to secure an impartial hearing of the colony's grievance in respect of the taxation of its municipal revenues for imperial purposes. It is admitted that the colony may fairly be called upon to pay a military contribution, but the contention is that in estimating the amount to be so paid the municipal revenue should be exempt. Nowhere else does the Imperial Government seize upon municipal revenues for military purposes, and there is no justification for its doing so in the case of Hongkong. The fact that the general and municipal revenues are here merged in one treasury chest makes it convenient to the Authorities to adopt that course, but does not in any degree justify it in so doing.

A further question is raised by the protest of the unofficial members, namely, whether the amount payable as military contribution should be a fixed sum or a percentage of the revenue. The unofficials now favour the former mode of settlement, though formerly they favoured the percentage principle. The reason for this change seems to be the decision of the Secretary of State that the percentage is to be levied on the total revenues of the colony, general and municipal, instead of on the general revenue alone. They say—"We would point out that it was in consequence of our repeated representations that the sum heretofore demanded was out of proportion to our means that the question of the military contribution was reconsidered. It was relief we asked from a burden too heavy for us to bear. The impost, as it is now proposed to levy it, will simply increase this burden, and we would therefore pray that the original arrangement of a yearly payment of £40,000 be reverted to." Whether the new mode of levying the contribution will or will not increase the actual amount we have to pay depends upon the amount of the revenue and the course of exchange, but it has the merit of relieving the colony from having its finances disturbed by the fluctuations in the gold value of the dollar and by having further arbitrary demands suddenly made upon it. What the unofficial members appear to mean is that the sum of £40,000 should be fixed as the amount payable annually in perpetuity, but it would be idle to suppose that the home Government would accept such a settlement. If the justice of a military contribution be admitted in principle it must also be admitted that the amount so payable should bear some proportion to the revenue of the colony. The course hitherto adopted both in the Straits and Hongkong has been to arbitrarily increase the amount when the home Government in its wisdom thought the revenue could bear it, the Straits con-

tribution being increased at one bound from £50,000 to £100,000 and the Hongkong contribution from £20,000 to £40,000, and if that system were continued and the revenue went on increasing we should inevitably be confronted some fine day with a demand for £80,000 as this colony's contribution. The percentage system is very much better than that and it would be to the interest of the colony frankly to accept it, notwithstanding the difference of opinion as to the proportion of the revenue on which the percentage is to be levied. The latter should be dealt with as a separate question, the demand for the exemption of the municipal revenue being pressed whenever opportunity offers; but to throw over the percentage system altogether and leave the home Government with a free hand to double the amount payable whenever it saw fit would be disastrous.

THE FOREIGN CUSTOMS VERSUS LEKIN.

Foreign merchants, and particularly ship-owners, are indebted to a correspondent of our Shanghai morning contemporary for an instructive note on the proposed increase in the Customs tariff and the probable effect on native trade of the substitution of branches of the Imperial Maritime Customs for the lekin stations. The correspondent says that readers in Shanghai probably hardly appreciate the fact that all goods passing from one treaty port on the Yangtze to another have to pay full export and an additional half-duty. This fact is probably still less appreciated in Hongkong, and in view of the prospective opening of the West River next spring it is important that it should receive due consideration, for of course the rule applies equally to all treaty ports and not to those on the Yangtze only. The rule is that "Native produce carried coastwise pays full export duty at the port of shipment; and, at the port of entry, coast-trade duty, the amount of which is declared to be half import duty." As regards trade between distant ports, say Canton and Newchwang, this tariff may not be felt very oppressive, but if custom-houses under the Foreign Inspectorate are to be established everywhere and seven and a half per cent. levied on trade between adjoining prefectures it would be prohibitive. As the correspondent remarks, the bulk of the interport trade on the Yangtze is carried on by junks paying lekin, which, for short distances, is often not one-tenth of the foreign Customs tariff, and so, although shipments between adjacent river ports by steam are rendered practically impossible, yet with native junks, not foreign-chartered, trade can still be carried on. Foreign merchants are more directly concerned with foreign trade, but the promotion of purely native trade must also be an object of interest to them, for foreign trade is likely to expand or contract in proportion as native trade flourishes or languishes, and the foreign shipowner, as distinct from the merchant, is of course directly interested in the native trade as supplying freight for his steamers. Even as between Canton and Hongkong goods are driven to seek carriage by junk instead of availing of the cheaper rates and greater speed and safety of steamers, because the Hoppo undercuts the Foreign Customs in the amount of duty levied, which more than makes up the difference in the other charges. When the West River is opened it will make a great difference to the foreign steamers employed if they are debarred by the high duties from competing with junks

for the native interport trade and have to confine themselves to the carriage of goods to or from Hongkong.

The correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* ventures "to maintain that if lekin is to be given up, then the internal extension of foreign Custom-houses should be given up too, and China be encouraged, under foreign auspices, to enjoy that freedom of internal trade that has been one of the main factors in the exuberant prosperity of the United States of America, notwithstanding their antiquated external protective system." That of course is excellent in theory, but looking at the matter from a practical business point of view it must be recognised that there is not the remotest probability of China foregoing the taxation of her internal trade for a very long period to come, if ever. How, then, is the taxation to be levied, by the foreign Custom-houses or by native lekin stations? Undoubtedly the foreign Custom-houses would be the preferable agency, if the duties they collected were the same, because they would be honestly administered, but if native goods cannot be moved short distances without payment of seven-and-a-half per cent. *ad valorem* trade in them will become impossible. On the Yangtze there are now seven Maritime Custom-houses on the Yangtze River alone, above Shanghai, some, such as Ichang and Shashih, Wuhu and Chinkiang, not one hundred miles apart, while when Nanking and other stations now open under the "Yangtze Regulations" are formally opened there will be Custom-houses all along the river within fifty miles of each other. The coast-trade regulations and the tariff established by those regulations were clearly never intended for such conditions as now prevail on the Yangtze and as will soon prevail on the West River; they were intended for trade between different provinces or ports of the same province, separated by long distances, not for trade between adjoining prefectures. A revision is therefore wanted to meet the new conditions, so that foreign Custom-houses may replace the lekin stations without charging higher rates of duty than those hitherto charged by the latter.

THE TONKIN TRANSIT TRADE.

The question of the transit trade regulations in Tonkin has recently been much agitated in that colony, and not long ago the Hanoi Chamber of Commerce made strong representations to the Government, recommending more liberal regulations and a lowering of the duty. This duty was fixed by a decree of the 29th November, 1892, at 20 per cent. of the import duty on foreign goods. The Government has now requested an expression of opinion on the subject from the Haiphong Chamber of Commerce, which body it would seem holds different views from those of the sister Chamber at Hanoi. From the published minutes of the meeting of the Haiphong Chamber at which the question was considered we learn that upon the reading of the Governmental despatch the Chairman made a speech in opposition to the proposal and that the Chamber, endorsing his views, passed a resolution favouring the maintenance of the *status quo*, with the proviso that the question might be reconsidered when the means of communication with Laokay have been improved. The reasons advanced by M. DOUSDEBES, the Chairman, are peculiar. In the first place he threw doubts on the character of the demand for a reduction which he said was not a real one. The Chinese in-

termediaries, he contended, did not want a reduction, because it would lower the commission earned by them; the lowering of the duty, or even its total abolition, would not lead to an increase in the trade; the deficit in the revenue would have to be made up by other taxes on trade; and the only result would be to benefit the Chinese merchants of Hongkong and Mengtzu. He therefore declared his intention of voting against the proposed reduction, while demanding that the attention of the Government should be devoted to the amelioration of the means of communication with Laokay. "When," he said, "in consequence of this 'amelioration' the transit trade shall have attained such proportions that this liberal measure may be adopted without inconvenience to local trade I will vote for it with pleasure."

We find it difficult to follow the arguments of the Haiphong Chamber, for there can be no doubt that heavy transit dues must operate in restraint of trade, and one of the chief reasons alleged for the French occupation of Tonkin was to secure control over what was contended to be the best route to South-west China and to stimulate the transit trade. Whatever course may ultimately be adopted with reference to the proposed reduction of the duty, it would seem that the Government has seen reason to disapprove of the manner in which the Customs Service has been administered, and M. Coqui, the Director-General, has been superseded. While most of the local papers express sympathy with that officer and describe his removal as a blow to trade, the *Indo-Chine Francaise* recalls the fact that when in July last the members of the Hanoi Chamber of Commerce resigned in a body they alleged as one of their reasons that their representations were very rarely attended to and generally failed to elicit even a reply, "more especially" as regards the many *tracasseries* of the Customs Service, as useless as they are "annoying to trade, which they discourage." The resignations having been accepted by the Government a new election was held, when the old members were all re-elected, the electors thus proving their confidence in the Chamber. Our contemporary contended at the time that the supersession of M. Coqui had become necessary, and now that it has been carried into effect it supports the Government in the action taken. We are of course not in a position to express any opinion as to the justice of the treatment meted out to M. Coqui, who has been personally very popular at Haiphong and has been accorded a farewell banquet, but if the change made in the administration of the Customs is to be taken as ushering in a more liberal regime it must be hailed with satisfaction. Hitherto, and more especially of late, the transit trade between Hongkong and Yunnan via Tonkin has been seriously obstructed by the vexatious regulations to which it has been subjected.

THE REFORM MOVEMENT IN CHINA

In our issue of Saturday appeared a letter signed "A Reformer," in which the writer states that the reform movement in China is extensive and has adherents and sympathisers throughout the world; that the reformers desire to see the emancipation of the Great Chinese race from the bigoted and selfish Manchu yoke; that the people want progress and reform and will strive to accomplish it at any cost. This may be true of the leaders of the reform movement individually, but there is unfortunately no

evidence of any national aspiration for reform in China, on the contrary, the strongest opponents of reform are to be found, not amongst the Manchus, nominally the governing race, but amongst the Chinese literati. The picture presented by our correspondent is that of a struggling nationality groaning under the yoke of a foreign tyrant, whereas the fact is that the Manchus have been almost absorbed by the Chinese, and they are Chinese statesmen, not Manchus, who exercise the preponderance in the direction of their country's destiny. LI HUNG-CHANG and WENG TUNG-BO, the recognised leaders of the principal rival factions in the Empire at the present moment, are both Chinese, and it is seldom that one hears of a Manchu attaining political prominence. In the ordinary administration of the country the mandarins of native race far outnumber those of Manchu race and they are not inferior to the latter in squeezing and oppressing the people. The literati, who as a body oppose reform tooth and nail, are the recognised leaders of the people in every province and prefecture, and it is the ambition of every family in the Empire to see one of its sons succeed in taking a place amongst these exponents of blind conservatism. That an energetic and courageous band of reformers might succeed in wakening the national conscience and intelligence to an aspiration after a purer and more wholesome national life is not beyond the bounds of possibility, but war upon the dynasty merely as a dynasty would not be likely to accomplish that, and to overthrow the TA-TSING dynasty and again place the Ming on the Throne would probably signify no more than a change of name to the mass of the people, and as for the dream of a republic under a Lord Protector of the Commonwealth, it is at present a dream and nothing more. We know nothing of the plans of the reformers or of their strength or organisation, further than that they design to effect a revolution by force of arms. At best, and with only their own Government to reckon with, that would appear rather a hopeless task, but the contingency of foreign intervention must also be recognised. China has now a large foreign debt, and as any disturbance of the established order would threaten the stability of the revenue on which that debt is secured her creditors would not remain indifferent spectators. Moreover, some of the Powers would not be unwilling to step in and appropriate large slices of Chinese territory if circumstances favoured such an operation. On a previous occasion Russia occupied Ilon on the plea of maintaining order, and she would not be averse to repeating the operation on a larger scale, nor would France object to follow her example in the South, while Great Britain and the other Powers would have to take such steps as the protection of their commercial interests might seem to render necessary. It would be a thankless task to bolster up such a Government as that which China now possesses, but the raising of the standard of revolt might mean nothing better than plunging the country into anarchy, and it is therefore not in that direction that the friends of China must look for reform.

The *Shanghai Daily Press* understands that at the last minute, just before leaving for the South, the Commander of the German cruiser *Cormoran* received orders from home to have a thorough overhaul at Shanghai, and that in consequence she will go into dock at once, and expects to be there another three months.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN SCHOOLS.

After a long and carefully conducted enquiry the Coroner's jury have come to the conclusion that TONG WING, a pupil of the Diocesan School, did not die as the result of a blow dealt by Mr. RALPHS, his teacher, but as the result of an accidental fall. There can be no dispute, we think, about the justice of this finding. Mr. RALPHS had, by the verdict of the jury, been properly exonerated from blame, and we fail to see how any other verdict could have been returned. There was not a tittle of evidence against him, and none of the witnesses could say that they had seen Mr. RALPHS hit a single one of the pupils on the head with a pointer or stick. The deceased boy, it is true, twice said while in the hospital, and a few hours before his death, that he had been struck on the head by Mr. RALPHS, but it is much more likely that the altogether different version which he gave to the amahs and another scholar was the true one, and that his mind when he was lying on his death bed in the hospital was not at all clear as to the precise way in which he suffered the fatal injury. Sympathy must be expressed both for the parents of the boy and for Mr. RALPHS, who must have undergone considerable anxiety of mind since the contents of Dr. ATKINSON'S letter giving the boy's statement were made known to him. But a side light has been thrown on the way in which corporal punishment is sometimes inflicted by schoolmasters and it is to this that we wish to draw special attention. It was stated by many of the witnesses, and admitted by Mr. RALPHS himself, that the boxing of a boy's ears sometimes served as a punishment. This is, to our way of thinking, a very undesirable mode of correction to adopt in any school. Time after time the highest medical authorities have pointed out the extreme danger of boxing a boy's ears, and numerous cases of injury to the ears and partial and even total loss of hearing have been recorded as being directly due to this highly reprehensible practice on the part of school teachers. The infliction of corporal punishment in a school is absolutely necessary for the well being of the school and the scholars, but it certainly should not be within the power of every teacher in a school to inflict punishment whenever he thinks it desirable and certainly not to box a boy's ears, which is a harsh and stupid form of punishment, and one likely to be administered when the teacher is irritated. The Education Department in England, as Mr. RALPHS said in his evidence, may consider any certificated teacher competent to administer corporal punishment, but the Department certainly does not tolerate the boxing of a boy's ears. In many, and perhaps all the Board Schools in England, only the headmaster and in his absence the second master can inflict corporal punishment, and such punishment consists merely of caning on the hands or buttocks, the boxing of ears being strictly forbidden. The Right Rev. Bishop BURDON recently referred to the Diocesan School as one of the best schools in the colony, and it is to be hoped that its well deserved reputation may not be allowed to suffer through indiscretion on the part of individual teachers in the matter of corporal punishment.

It is feared that the steamer *Sultan*, previously reported as being ashore above Kiukiang, will remain there for the winter. Two tugs have been despatched to her assistance, but owing to the rapid fall of the river there is very little prospect of her getting off until the water rises next spring.—*N. C. Daily News*.

COMPETITIVE DESIGNS FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

In the *Building News* of the 23rd October we find the following:—"The President of the Royal Institute of British Architects has been requested by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to nominate three or four architects of good reputation who will undertake to prepare designs, working drawings, specifications, and estimates for proposed Government Buildings at Kingston, Jamaica. The architect who may be selected will have to visit Kingston, and attend the committee there with reference to the general plans and architectural character of the designs. He will subsequently be required to furnish to the Government full and detailed working drawings and specifications for the construction of the buildings. The remuneration of the selected architect for the work will be 2½ per cent. on the estimated cost, which is not to exceed £100,000. Architects desirous of being nominated are invited to send in their names, with particulars of their work and experience, to the Acting Secretary R.I.B.A. before tomorrow (Saturday), the 24th." The Secretary of State seems to have taken a very different view of this subject as affecting Jamaica from that which he took respecting the erection of new Public Offices in Hongkong. He stated that he was not prepared to approve the proposal to invite competitive designs for new Government Offices at Hongkong, and that it would be desirable to employ the consulting architects to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Messrs. ASTON WEBB and INGRESS BELL. In the case of Jamaica we find no reference to Messrs. ASTON WEBB and INGRESS BELL. Jamaica, like Hongkong, is a Crown Colony, and the question suggests itself why, if Hongkong is to be considered bound to the consulting architects of the Crown Agents, Jamaica should not be equally bound. In the Colonial Office List we find no mention of any such appointment as that of consulting architects to the Crown Agents. Was the post created simply for the purpose of squashing Hongkong professional men? It would almost seem so, as the consulting architects are not referred to in the case of Jamaica. As to whether it is better to invite competitive designs, as was proposed in the case of Hongkong, or to make a selection of the architect from as many candidates as may offer themselves, the course adopted in the Jamaica case, opinions may differ, but this colony has certainly good reason to complain if it is to be allowed no liberty of choice either in the one direction or the other but is to be held bound to accept whatever Messrs. ASTON WEBB and INGRESS BELL may be pleased to give us.

A story is whispered in the North, illustrative of the tension in the capital at the present time. While H.E. Li was absent on his mission, Sheng Taotai, it is said, sent in a memorial to the Throne denouncing his former patron. When Li returned, he of course got a copy of it, and when Sheng came to call on him—the story goes—Li said to him, "You're a nice fellow! I made you what you are, and when my back is turned, you denounce me to the Throne." Sheng at once denied the impeachment, on which Li drawing the copy of the memorial from his boot held it up before Sheng and then, slapping him on both cheeks with it, drove him from his presence.—*N. C. Daily News*.

SUPREME COURT

24th November.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR DR. GARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE).

AN ABSCONDING WITNESS SENT TO GOAL.

Chau Sam was placed in the dock, he having been arrested for not appearing as a witness in the trial of Chan Tai Yan, who was charged with murder at Causeway Bay.

His Lordship (to prisoner)—You were bound over to appear as a witness for the prosecution in the case of the Queen against Chan Tai Yan at the last October assizes. You had notice of the time to appear; you know when you ought to have appeared. What have you got to say for yourself?

Prisoner—I received a letter from my mother telling me she was very ill and subsequently I heard that she was dead.

His Lordship (to the interpreter)—Tell him I am very sorry if his mother was very ill in bed, but he certainly ought to have let the officers know that he could not come to the trial.

Prisoner—I was under the impression that your Lordship would not decide the case so soon as that. About the 14th or 15th I received a very important letter and I found that one of the corners was burnt, which indicates that it is a very serious matter. When I looked through the letter I found that my mother was very ill and there was no hope of her recovery, and so I was obliged to go to her.

His Lordship—I do not know that I can accept that altogether. I have power under the Supreme Court Ordinance to fine you \$100 or send you to prison for two months. This was a very important trial and you ought to have been there. If you could not be there you ought to have let the officers of the Court know that you could not come. You must go to prison for three weeks and think about the matter.

A SERIOUS CHARGE.

Wong Sau, Ho Kum, and Yeung Fat were charged with feloniously applying powdered arsenic to a man with intent to disable him. A second count charged them with applying the destructive substance with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

Mr. Robinson (instructed by Mr. Holmes) prosecuted and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. Denny), defended the prisoners, who pleaded not guilty.

The jurors sworn were—Messrs. Ho Yuet Cho, Fritz Lieb, J. A. V. Ribeiro, Li Wai Ching, F. A. Ozorio, Muck Tung Lum, F. F. Barretto.

Mr. J. H. Logan's name was called as a juror, but Mr. Francis objected to him because he had been "mixed up with the opium farmer and opium."

Mr. Logan was thereupon asked to stand aside. The second prisoner objected to the foreman of the jury, Ho Yuet Cho.

His Lordship—You must state your reason. The second prisoner—Because I do not know the man myself.

His Lordship—That has nothing to do with it; it is a very good reason why you should not object.

The second prisoner—I am afraid he is ignorant of the English law.

His Lordship—Swear the juror.

Mr. Robinson said that the complainant was an ex-policeman and formerly a chief excise officer in the service of the opium farmer, and the prisoners had a grudge against him for an imaginary injury, the supposed injury being that he had given information to the Commissioner of Customs in Hongkong, upon which some opium smuggled by the prisoners was seized. On the 26th September the prisoners met prosecutor in Wing Kuit Street and while two of them held him the third threw some powdered arsenic into his face. The man washed his face and afterwards went to the Police Station, where Inspector Witchell collected the powder that remained on his face and forwarded it to the Government analyst. Fortunately the prisoners did not

succeeded in doing serious injury to the complainant, but there was no doubt about their intent, as powdered arsenic was highly corrosive. The complainant was called and Mr. Francis cross-examined him at some length concerning his transactions with smugglers. The case was not concluded when the Court adjourned.

25th November.

The three men charged with applying powdered arsenic to a man were found not guilty by the jury and they were thereupon discharged.

25th November.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. T. SEECOMBE SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE.)

CHIU CHU SHI v. CHEUNG KAM TIN.

Plaintiff claimed the sum of \$550 for money lent by him to the wife of defendant.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. K. W. Mounsey), appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. Hastings defended.

The defendant is compradore to Messrs. Meyer & Co. and has been several times sued by creditors of his wife for necessities and money supplied to her.

Mr. Francis said the defendant was separated from his wife through his own fault; he was not supplying her with sufficient maintenance, and consequently she was obliged to borrow. Under those circumstances the husband was liable for the money borrowed by his wife.

Chiu Chu Shi was called and deposed to lending the money to defendant's wife through her son, who was a "boy" in the Hongkong Club, and produced the promissory note which she received.

The defendant's wife was then sworn and said she had been living apart from her husband for four or five years and he only allowed her \$40 a month for her maintenance, which was not sufficient. She borrowed the money to buy rice and provisions. She stated that her husband owned considerable property in Hongkong and also in the country.

Mr. Hastings, for the defence, raised a preliminary point that the court had no jurisdiction to entertain the claim. A claim for money advanced to a wife for necessities was only recognisable by a court of equity and not by a court of law. Therefore this claim could not be allowed unless the Summary Court had power to entertain it in its equitable jurisdiction. The Summary Court only had equitable jurisdiction in certain specific matters, four in number, including trusts, mortgages, and partnerships, but it had no jurisdiction to deal with the subjects of infants or married women. It was true that judgments had been given by the Summary Court against this defendant in similar cases before, but this did not bind his Lordship at all, because this particular point had never been raised before in defence.

Mr. Francis argued that the Court had power to entertain the claim on its common law side quite apart from its equitable jurisdiction. They were suing in common law on the contract and no case had been cited in which a common-law court had refused to deal with such a claim.

His Lordship said he would reserve judgment on the point and adjourned the further hearing of the case till Thursday next.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* of the 21st November says:—The bad weather of the past week has stopped for the time being the export of rice to Hongkong. The last steamers leaving Haiphong have been only half full. The Government is credited with an intention to suspend the export of rice towards the end of the year. The administration not having definitely declared its intentions, charterers are in a state of uncertainty and dare not enter into engagements that may prove useless. Freight between Haiphong and Hongkong is 18 cents per bag, but it is certain that this rate will be raised for the Chinese merchants have had bags made of a much larger capacity than formerly. Some years ago the bags contained one picul, but now their weight is 70 to 80 kilos. (150 lbs. to 175 lbs.)

ST. ANDREW'S BALL.

A Scotch mist ushered in St. Andrew's Day and Scotsmen were thus forcibly reminded of home and beauty, St. Andrew, and the celebration ball. The morning weather might have been specially imported direct from the Highlands and everybody seemed to be rather glad than otherwise that they were brought in such close touch with the congenial atmosphere of the auld countrie. At night, however, rain fell heavily, but notwithstanding the wretched climatic conditions Scotsmen in Hongkong turned out almost to a man and for the fifteenth year in succession celebrated their Saint's Day in a manner worthy of the kilted race. All the available space in the City Hall was utilized, but, as of yore, there was not an inch of room to spare. About eight hundred people were present and it is needless to say they heartily enjoyed themselves, the merriment being maintained at full pitch until the early hours of the morning. The staircase and the various rooms were tastefully decorated with evergreens and banners in a style similar to that of last year, things Scottish being of course prominently brought before one's notice. The Scottish flag, the Scottish arms, and the Scottish thistle were conspicuous everywhere, and the whole scene was most pleasing and brilliant in the extreme. Soon after nine o'clock His Excellency the Governor arrived and a procession, headed by two stalwart pipers, was formed, and on the ball room being reached dancing at once commenced, the first set being composed as follows:—Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (President) and Mrs. Black, His Excellency the Governor and Mrs. Lockhart, Major-General Black and Mrs. Holland, His Honour Dr. Carrington (Chief Justice) and Mrs. Cooper, Commodore Holland and Mrs. Rumsey, Mr. D. Gillies and Mrs. May. The music was played in excellent time by the band of the West Yorkshire Regiment, who have been practising Scottish airs since they left Colombo, a telegram being sent to them there on their way out to Hongkong. The pipers of course played for the reels. The following was the programme:—

Lancers	Connaught.
Waltz	Golconda.
Caledonians	Roderick Dhu.
Waltz	The Officers.
Eightsome Reel	The Diel among the Tailors.
Polka	Tout à la Joie.
Waltz	Rosen aus dem Suden.
Strathspey	Carbarfeidh.
Caledonians	Bonnie Dundee.
Waltz	Sobre las O las.
Lancers	Her Majesty's.
Barn Dance	Iola.
Strathspey	Ho-ro Morag.
Waltz	Très Jolie.
Caledonians	Royal Scots.
Highland Schottische	Scotia.
Waltz	Mia Cara.
Polka	Shop Girl.
Lancers	Gondoliers.
Waltz	Goldene Myrthen.
Caledonians	Over the Border.
Galop	John Peel.

Supper, which was provided by the Victoria Hotel, was served in the theatre between 11.30 and 1.30, the following being the menu:—

"Some hae meat and canna eat
And some wad eat that want it;
But we hae meat and we can eat,
And sae the Lord be thankit."

The Back o' a Sheep Roastit.	
Roastit Turkey.	York Ham.
Roastit Kobe Beef.	Corned Beef.
Corned Tongue.	Roastit Capon.
Game Pie.	Sheeps' Head Pie.
Pâté de Foie Gras in Jeelie.	
Partan Salad.	Chuckie Salad.
Roastit Peasant.	Roastit Wild Deuk.

THE HAGGIES.

"Fair fa' your honest sonsie face,
Great chieftain o' the puddin'-race,
Aboon them a' ye tak your place."

BOILED TATTIES.

"Freedom and whisky gang thegither,
Tak aff your dram."

SWEETIES.

Shortbread.	Grosset Tairt.	Auld Reekie Jeelie.
Killiefrankie Puffs.		Buchan Baps.
BLANC MANGE.		
Vanilla and Chocolate Ice Creams.		

The card room was as usual well patronized and whist players passed a most pleasant time there. In fact in whatever room one went into there was hearty jollity and there can be no doubt that this year's St. Andrew's Dance was, the bad weather notwithstanding, a great success and the various Committees who carried out the arrangements must be congratulated upon the thoroughness of their efforts. Mr. David Wood was a most energetic and capable hon. secretary and the valuable assistance he gave contributed in no small measure to the success of the ball.

The following were the stewards—R. Adam, A. G. Aitken, G. C. Anderson, J. Andrew, J. M. Armstrong, G. Murray Bain, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, H. E. Major-General Black, C. B. John Blake, W. D. Braidwood, H. F. Carmichael, J. B. Cousins, A. Coutts, D. R. Crawford, A. Cumming, Lieut. W. H. Ramage Dawson, R. A. C. W. Dickson, A. G. Ewing, J. McGee, J. Forbes, J. Gilchrist, David Gillies, Capt. L. A. C. Gordon, R. A. A. G. Gordon, W. Douglas Graham, F. Henderson, T. F. Hough, C. E. Hume, J. W. Kinghorn, J. Kirkwood, W. K. Low, W. Macbean, D. MacDonald, E. F. Mackay, F. D. Maclean, Dep. Insp. General Maclean, E. J. Main, A. M. Marshall, H. McCallum, A. McConachie, James McKie, R. Mitchell, J. E. Mudie, Geo. W. F. Playfair, W. Ramsay, Dr. Rennie, B. L. Richardson, H. W. Robertson, A. Rodger, John Rodger, C. H. Ross, D. K. Sliman, C. S. Sharp, Captain Sterling, A. D. C. Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Gerald Stewart, W. Taylor, Hon. A. M. Thomson, James Waddell, James Walker, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, David Wood.

The various Committees were as follows:—

Invitation Committee—Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Messrs. D. Gillies, W. Macbean, A. McConachie, G. W. F. Playfair, G. Stewart, D. Wood, E. J. Main.

Cardroom.—Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. A. M. Thomson, Messrs. G. Murray Bain, A. M. Marshall.

Dancing and Music.—H. E. Major-General Black, C. B., Messrs. G. C. Anderson, H. W. Robertson, C. H. Ross, D. K. Sliman, Lieut. W. H. Ramage Dawson, R. A.

Supper and Wines.—Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Messrs. A. G. Aitken, A. Cumming, C. E. Hume, E. F. Mackay, W. Macbean, J. McKie, G. W. F. Playfair, A. Rodger, J. Waddell, D. R. Crawford, H. F. Carmichael, W. Ramsay.

Decoration Committee.—Messrs. A. Ewing, J. Gilchrist, A. G. Gordon, J. W. Kinghorn, D. MacDonald, E. J. Main, J. Kirkwood.

Ladies' Room.—D. R. Crawford, B. L. Richardson.

TELEGRAPHIC GREETINGS.

In the morning Mr. David Wood, the Hon. Secretary to the Society, forwarded the following telegram—"Hon. Secretary, Singapore St. Andrew's Society. Scotsmen Hongkong send St. Andrew's greetings to brother Scots in Singapore."

A similar telegram was also wired to Shanghai.

THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

MEMORANDUM ON THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION BY THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF HONGKONG, SUBMITTED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

1.—We desire to record our protest against the decision of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, embodied in his despatch of the 8th June, 1896, in reply to our memorandum of the 21st March last, on the subject of the Military Contribution.

2.—In that memorandum we asked that, in calculating the gross revenue of the colony for the purpose of assessing the amount of the Military Contribution, all items of purely municipal, as distinguished from general revenue, should be omitted, as has been done with the sanction of the Secretary of State, in the Straits Settlements.

3.—The Secretary of State, in his despatch now before us, absolutely declined even to take our representations into considera-

tion, and has refused our request, not on its merits, but on the ground that even if he were to admit the justice of our claim to have the estimate of gross revenue amended as requested, it would make no difference in the result, as any reduction in the amount of the gross revenue which would sensibly diminish the amount annually payable as Military Contribution, would entail an immediate increase in the percentage rate at which the military tax is levied.

2.—As this decision of the Secretary of State means practically that no matter how successful we may be in effecting economies in our expenditure, we will never be allowed to reduce the taxation or diminish the gross revenue raised in the colony, so as to affect the amount of the Military Contribution, or, in other words, that although the amount of our Military Contribution may increase with every increase in our revenue, it will never be allowed to diminish in proportion to any decrease in that revenue, we formally protest against it as unreasonable and unjust.

3.—Our position that the military tax should be fixed at a definite rate per cent. of the total colonial revenue, less municipal revenue and land sales, was based on the belief that a percentage rate, once fixed would have remained unalterable, and that the amount we had to pay each year would have varied with the amount of revenue raised in the colony for its necessary expenditure, and that we would be permitted to alter that revenue as our expenditure increased or diminished in accordance with local needs.

4.—According to the views now expressed by the Secretary of State, we may have to pay more, but shall never pay less, than we are paying now, and no matter how economically and carefully the Government of the colony may be administered, no matter how our expenditure may be reduced, we must impose the same taxes and raise the same revenue as if no such economy had been effected, for the mere purpose of keeping up the amount of the payment to the War Office.

5.—Such an interpretation of the meaning of the settlement supposed to have been recently effected leaves the colony in a worse position than before.

6.—We would point out that it was in consequence of our repeated representations that the sum heretofore demanded was out of proportion to our means that the question of the Military Contribution was reconsidered. It was relief we asked from a burden too heavy for us to bear.

7.—The impost, as it is now proposed to levy it, will simply increase this burden, and we would therefore pray that the original arrangement of a yearly payment of £40,000 be reverted to.

8.—We do not for a moment wish to convey the impression that we admit that this sum is not disproportionate to the revenue of the colony, but we consider it as more equitable than the tax of 17½ per cent. on our gross revenue, which it is proposed by the Secretary of State to exact.

C. P. CHATER.
HO KAI.
T. H. WHITEHEAD.
E. R. BELLIOS.
J. J. BELL-IRVING.

Hongkong, 14th September, 1896.

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

26th November.

We learn that telegraphic information has been received from Manila stating that several engagements have taken place in the provinces of Bataan and Bulacan in which the rebels were dispersed and broken up with a loss in two of the engagements respectively of about 200 and 300 killed. On the 24th at San Rafael de Bulacan the troops again came up with the rebels, who were escaping to the mountains, routed them, and killed 400 (this number being counted dead on the field) and wounded a great number. The loss sustained by the troops was small.

1st December.

Last week telegraphic information was received in Hongkong to the effect that several engagements had taken place in the provinces

of Bataan and Bulacan in which the rebels were dispersed and broken up, their losses in two of the engagements being 200 and 300 killed. On the 24th November at San Rafael de Bulacan the troops again came up with the rebels, who were escaping to the mountains, routed them, and killed four hundred.

Manila papers received yesterday with dates to the 26th November confirm this information and give some details of the engagements. The loss of four hundred, mentioned above, is said to have been understated. That was the number given in the first official reports, but later reports doubled the number, making it eight hundred.

In Cavite the bombardment of the rebel positions is maintained and is said to be inflicting great losses on them. The statements as to these losses are said not to rest on mere surmise, but to be derived from a sure source, from which it would seem that the Government must have spies in the rebel ranks.

The papers contain reports of minor engagements and skirmishes, which are of daily occurrence, and in which the rebels are always defeated.

The most startling news contained in our files is that of an attack by the rebels on the railway. The mail train left Manila at six o'clock on the morning of the 21st November, and reached the town of Malolos without anything unusual having happened. Here there were rumours of groups of rebels hovering along the line between Malolos and Calumpit. The engine driver proceeded with great caution and at a slow speed, but at San Marcos the train was derailed, the line having been broken for a distance of 20 metres, but so as not to be observable from the engine. The engine was overturned and thrown down the embankment and four carriages followed it and were completely broken up. The rebels, who appeared to consist of about a thousand unarmed men, made their appearance immediately after the accident, stole all the goods the train was carrying and the correspondence, and made prisoners the engine driver, guard, and various passengers. News of the affair was received at Malolos about eight o'clock and the detachment stationed there at once marched to the place. On their arrival they found the rebels had left. Various persons injured in the accident were found and were conveyed to Malolos. A few hours later a repairing party arrived under the direction of Mr. Higgins, the manager of the railway, and communication both by rail and telegraph was restored on the afternoon of the 22nd. As to the prisoners taken by the rebels, it appears they could not have been very closely guarded and they were all with one exception allowed to make their escape, the exception being the guard, who had not been heard of up to date of latest advices.

It appears the rebels had come down the river in boats and on disembarking one party made for the railway and another for the town of Calumpit, where they robbed and set fire to various houses. It was at first reported that three Europeans had been murdered by them, but this report was happily unfounded. The house of Mr. Waman (?), an Englishman, was one of those attacked, and the cook was murdered, his head being severed from his body.

It would appear that only two passengers were seriously injured in the railway accident, one of whom subsequently died in the hospital, while the recovery of the other was doubtful.

According to a Madrid telegram General Eulaluce on his arrival there was presented to the Queen Regent, which negatives the reports that he had been sent home in disgrace.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* of the 25th November says:—We reported in our last number the arrival at Haiphong of a cargo of Hongkong briquettes made at the Hongkong factory. To-day we learn that the Société Française des Charbonnages expects immediately a complete plant which will be set up at Hongkong itself for the manufacture of briquettes. It is unnecessary to speak of the importance of this fact. With its new establishment the Company will be able to furnish economically and under excellent conditions of price a valuable fuel which will be used not only by the marine but by our principal steam factories.

THE HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At a monthly meeting of the Committee, held at the Chamber Rooms on the 31st November, Present, Messrs. A. McConachie (Chairman), H. Smith (Vice-Chairman), N. J. Ede, St. C. Michaelson, N. A. Siebs, T. H. Whitehead, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

NEW MEMBER.

It was announced that the China Merchants S. N. Co. had been elected a member of the Chamber.

THE INCREASE IN TELEGRAPH RATES.

Letters acknowledging receipt of a copy of the report of proceedings at the special meeting held on the 19th Sept. to protest against the action of the Joint Telegraph Companies in suddenly raising their rates, from the Hon. Secretary, China Association, Shanghai, the British Minister at Peking, the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, and from the Chairman, Bombay Chamber, were read, as was one from the German Consul, Hongkong, owning receipt of ten copies of same report.

CHINA IMPORT TARIFF.

Read letter from Secretary, London Chamber of Commerce, dated 30th September, advising to Chamber's letter of 19th May on above subject, and stating that it had been discussed by the East India and China Section, the result being that a letter had been addressed to the Foreign Secretary on the question, copy of which was enclosed.

Also read letter from Shanghai Chamber, forwarding two copies of the minutes of the special meeting of the Committees of the Chamber and China Association held on 2nd September to consider the subject, and which documents on a previous occasion had failed to come to hand.

Decided to write to London Chamber and express satisfaction at the despatch of the letter to the Foreign Office, which, moreover, clearly expressed the views entertained by the Committee. Also resolved to publish the correspondence.

THREATENED EXCISE ON PRODUCTS OF FOREIGN FACTORIES IN CHINA.

Read letter from Acting Secretary, Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, dated 17th November, stating result of their Vice-Chairman's visit to Peking, the formation of Special Committees to deal with various trades and report on same, and asking Chamber's co-operation by furnishing reports on such matters as affect local interests.

Resolved to reply to effect that though, this being a British colony, the question of the taxation of foreign made goods at Treaty Ports did not touch Hongkong in the same way, this Chamber will be glad to render any assistance it could to the Shanghai Chamber, but the Committee would like to know specifically what form that assistance could take.

THE OFFICIAL TELEGRAPH CODE VOCABULARY.

Read letter from Secretary, General Post Office, London, dated 30th September, giving the decision of the Telegraph Conference at Buda-Pesth, to the effect that the Vocabulary is to be enlarged and not to come into effect until after a date to be fixed by the next Conference in 1901, and asking assistance of Chamber to induce owners and compilers of private codes to forward copies of same to the International Telegraph Office at Bern.

Decided to publish letter for information of the public, and reply stating what had been done.

QUARANTINE.

Read letters from Colonial Secretary, 7th November, informing Chamber that medical inspection is being enforced in Japan against arrivals from Formosa ports, and 10th Nov., stating that the Netherlands Indian Government has removed the quarantine imposed on vessels arriving from Hongkong and Canton.

Same have already been acknowledged, and information transmitted to local Press.

(Correspondence.)

CHINA IMPORT TARIFF.

London Chamber of Commerce,
Botolph House, Eastcheap,
London, E.C.

30th September, 1896.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

Dear Sir,—Referring to your letter of the 19th May last, I have to inform you that this subject has been discussed by the East India and China Trade Section of this Chamber. The subject was touched upon in the speeches made at the reception given by this Chamber in honour of His Excellency Li Hung-chang when in London and has since been discussed at a subsequent meeting of the section. I enclose for your information copy of letter which has been addressed to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on the subject.—Yours faithfully,
KENNEDY B. MURRAY,
Secretary.

Botolph House, Eastcheap,
London, E.C.,
30th September, 1896.

My Lord,—The attention of this Chamber and of its East India and China Trade Section has been directed through communications of its members, from Chambers of Commerce and other bodies concerned in Anglo-Chinese commerce, to the contemplated revision of the Chinese tariff and an increase in the rates of duty.

This Chamber recognises that the exigencies of the Chinese revenue require at this time consideration, and provided it be made *a sine qua non* of conceding an increase in the rate that the country be opened up by the introduction of improved means of communication, by the removal of all restrictions on the free navigation of every waterway and lake in the empire, and by the full recognition of the transit pass system, and the absolute exemption of goods from all other exactions of whatever nature on the payment of 2½ per cent. transit duty as provided by Treaty, the Chamber would admit an addition of 2½ per cent. *ad valorem* to the import and export duty, thus making the customs duty 7½ per cent., and, with the transit duty added, 10 per cent. in the aggregate, which is as heavy an impost as the trade will bear. Indeed, such an addition can only be regarded with approval on the clear understanding that it does absolutely cover every exaction, and that in the case of imports it frees such goods throughout the length and breadth of the Empire.

On the express conditions stated, this Chamber would, therefore, favour the collection of import duty and transit dues by the Imperial Customs Service at one payment (the amounts being kept separate, however, in account), and in order that the Provincial authorities should receive the transit dues they are entitled to, the goods should be accompanied by a Customs transit pass bearing upon its face the amount of dues paid, which pass, when the goods have reached their transit destination, shall be encashed by the Imperial Government. It is difficult to suggest what protective measures could be taken to ensure respect throughout China of imported articles which have thus purchased absolute exemption from any further tax, duty, or impost of any kind, but experience proves that it is necessary to provide against disregard of the conditions agreed upon, and incumbent to possess prompt means of redress.

I am to express the hope of this Chamber that these representations may receive your Lordship's favourable consideration in connection with any negotiations which may be conducted by Her Majesty's Government with the Chinese Government.—I am, my Lord, your Lordship's obedient servant.

KENNEDY B. MURRAY,
Secretary.

The Most Noble the Marquis of Salisbury, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Downing Street, S.W.

Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce,
12th November, 1896.

The Secretary, General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

Dear Sir,—The result of the recent visit of our Vice-Chairman to the Foreign Ministers

in Peking, is that, whilst unable to appoint official representatives on the suggested Commission regarding the taxation of Foreign trade and threatened excise on the products of silk filatures and cotton mills, Ministers strongly favoured the formation of a committee of merchants for the proposed purpose and would welcome a comprehensive report thereon.

This Chamber therefore has formed a special committee of merchants divided into sections dealing with the various trades and industries, viz.—(1) piece goods, (2) general imports (oil, iron, &c), (3) tea, (4) raw silk, (5) general exports (straw braid, &c), (6) filatures, factories, (7) cotton mills; and it will be of great assistance if your Chamber will co-operate by furnishing us with reports on such of the subjects as affect the interests of your port, in order that a general expression of opinion on the anomalies and irregularities of present taxation and possible means of equitable amendment may be compiled.—I remain, dear sir, yours faithfully,

GEO. D. SCOTT,
Acting Secretary.

THE INCREASE IN TELEGRAPHIC RATES.

Peking, 19th October, 1896.

Sir,—I have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of September 29th forwarding a report of a meeting of your Chamber, held on the 19th of that month, to discuss the recently concluded Telegraph Convention.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

CLAUDE M. MACDONALD.

The Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

China Association,
Shanghai Branch,
23rd October, 1896.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

Dear Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant covering a report of the proceedings at a special meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held on the 19th ultimo, to protest against the action of the Telegraph Companies in raising the tariff. These documents have been referred to the local committee.

The increase in rates was made in Shanghai without notice, the publication announcing that the new rates would come into operation on the 1st August not having appeared until that date. Inquiries made by the local committee satisfied them that the Convention had been signed by Her Majesty's Minister under instructions from the Imperial Government, and that any protests made by them must of necessity prove ineffectual. They are, however, in perfect accord with the Chamber of Commerce in regarding the action of the Telegraph Companies as utterly unjustifiable and based upon inadequate reasons; and they purpose addressing the general Committee of the China Association in London, pointing out that monopolies of every description should be held in strict control because of the natural tendency to benefit themselves at the expense of the general interest, and the inconvenience and danger incurred in accepting propositions the nature of which has been carefully concealed from foreign merchants affected lest the latter should have an opportunity of expressing their opinion at a time when reason and protest might have proved effectual.

While the local committee have very little hope that any effort they make will be of service, there will be the satisfaction of knowing that a protest has been lodged against action which may, if allowed to pass unchallenged, form a regrettable precedent.

The local committee will be very pleased to assist in any movement calculated to lessen the evils of the telegraphic monopoly in China; but they are sensible of the almost insuperable character of the difficulties they have to encounter. The Telegraph Companies have for years endeavoured to carry the scheme now perfected, and so far as the knowledge of the committee extends they have succeeded in effectually closing China to any competition whatsoever on the part of other telegraph companies.

The local committee are in full sympathy with your Chamber and deeply regret their inability to be of substantial service.

I shall be glad if you can spare another printed copy of the minutes of the meeting, that sent to me having been forwarded to the general committee in London.—Yours faithfully,

W. H. TALBOT,
Hon. Secretary.

The Chamber of Commerce,
Bombay, 30th October, 1896.

The Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

Dear Sir,—I am directed to convey to you the thanks of the Committee of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce for your letter of the 8th instant, and its accompanying, with reference to the recent action of the Telegraph Companies mentioned in having raised their rates for messages to Europe, America, and between Hongkong and Shanghai.

The subject of telegraph rates has for some time been engaging the attention of my Committee, and they have frequently, and again quite recently, protested against the high tariff charged by the Telegraph Companies, but they regret to say that their representations have not, up to the present, met with the desired success. If, however, any scheme for joint action is put forward by your Chamber, my Committee will be only too glad to consider and, if possible, support it.—I remain, dear sir, yours faithfully,

A. F. BEAUFORT,
Chairman.

THE OFFICIAL TELEGRAPHIC CODE VOCABULARY.

General Post Office, London,
30th September, 1896.

Sir,—I am directed by the Postmaster-General to acquaint you for the information of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce that the decision of the International Telegraph Conference of Paris, under which the use of the official vocabulary for code telegrams prepared by the International Telegraph Office at Berne would have become obligatory for European code telegrams from the 1st of January, 1898, has not been maintained by the Conference recently held at Buda-Pesth.

The vocabulary is to be amended and enlarged and the use of the new vocabulary will not be obligatory until after a date to be fixed by some future Conference, which will have an opportunity of considering the whole question before coming to a final decision.

The next Conference will not be held before 1901.

In these circumstances the Director of the International Telegraph Office at Berne, with the view of meeting the representations made by Chambers of Commerce and others, proposes to reproduce in a revised edition of the official vocabulary all the words to be found in existing private codes, so far as these words are admissible under the regulations of the International Telegraph Convention.

In this manner it is intended that the vocabulary shall have the character of a standard collection of words on a scale sufficiently extensive to afford full liberty of choice in the preparation of codes.

With the view of carrying out this intention the Director of the International Telegraph Office has forwarded to this department for distribution in this country a circular, of which a copy is enclosed, asking the Chambers of Commerce, the compilers of codes, and others who desire to see the words in their codes appear in the revised vocabulary, to forward to the Director at the International Telegraph Office at Berne before the end of the current year a copy of their codes.

It is asked that the codes be sent without charge, and that the use of words taken from them may not be held as any infringement of the author's rights.

I am therefore to ask you to be so good as to move your Chamber of Commerce, if it has no objection, to take such steps as it may deem desirable to give effect to the wishes of the International Telegraph Office.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

J. G. HARRIS,
The Secretary, Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

HONGKONG AND THE TRAFALGAR DAY CELEBRATION.

The Secretary of the Hongkong Branch of the Navy League has received the following communication from the head office of the League:—

13, Victoria Street, London, S.W.,
Trafalgar Day.

Dear Sir,—The Executive Committee desire me to convey to you their most cordial thanks for your practical support of the National Celebration of Trafalgar Day.

We purchased on behalf of your Branch a gigantic laurel wreath ten feet in diameter and attached to it a white China shield, with the inscription painted in blue letters, "Contributed by the Hongkong Branch of the Navy League." Your tribute was placed in one of the positions of honour at the base of the column, and has been inspected with great interest by the many thousands who have visited the Nelson memorial.

We received your cable "Hongkong unites in honouring the day" at eight o'clock this morning and at once communicated it to the press. It has already appeared in the London journals and will be copied by all the provincial newspapers throughout the United Kingdom.

Again thanking you on behalf of my Committee for your patriotic support of this great national celebration.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

MONCRIEFF WILSON,
Secretary to the Navy League.
The Hon. Secretary, Navy League, Hongkong.

A BURGLAR TRAPPED IN A RAVINE.

On the 25th November P.C. Gidley (45) effected the capture of a burglar who belongs to what is no doubt an energetic and dangerous gang of criminals. The arrest was made under somewhat peculiar and rather amusing circumstances. About four o'clock in the morning Gidley met a couple of Chinamen in Queen's Road and he asked them where their light or pass was. They excused themselves for not possessing either a light or pass by saying that they were just going to the Police Station to give information about an attempted burglary at a contractor's shop at 1, Queen's Road West—a very reasonable and sufficient explanation which Gidley readily accepted. He at once went to the shop mentioned by the men and found that their story was perfectly true and that the burglars had made two attempts to rob the place, the second being made just about the time that Gidley was informed of the first. The thieves had gone about their work in a decidedly professional manner. At the back of the shop there is an embankment, which is a part of Scandal Point, and bamboos had been firmly fixed in this embankment and ropes run across to the window. Entrance to the premises had by this means been effected, but as nothing was taken it is most probable that the rogues were disturbed at an inopportune time. Gidley climbed up the ropes and entered the building, but his search for the criminals proved unavailing and he made quick tracks for the adjacent lanes, and in a short time his efforts were rewarded. About five o'clock he saw four men sitting under a tree in a lane leading from Scandal Point to Headquarter House, and as the constable approached they ran away. Gidley ordered them to stop and drew his revolver and fired one shot in the air to frighten them. Apparently their nerves withstood the shock of the one round as they continued to run at a considerable speed. Gidley determined to keep his eye on one man, one burglar in a lane being better than four in the country. After running some distance the man suddenly vanished as if the earth had opened up and swallowed him. Gidley went on and when he got to the particular spot where the pursued one deviated from the level road he cautiously looked around. The night was dark, but in a minute or so the man who had flitted from view so mysteriously was found in a ravine, about ten to fifteen feet deep, which was covered with bracken, and which acted as an unexpected and fortunate trap for the thief. The chase was of course over now and Gidley

took his prisoner to the Police Station and charged him with the burglary. He was afterwards taken before the Magistrate and remanded.

THE YOKOHAMA POISONING CASE.

THE ACCUSED COMMITTED.

12th November.
Evidence was given by Dr. Todd, Dr. Wheeler, and Dr. May.

13th November.
Mary Esther Jacobs said she was a nursery governess in the employ of Mr. and Mrs. Carew from the 13th May last, when she arrived from England, until the 24th October. She gave evidence similar to that given at the inquest as to going to Maruya's for arsenic. After Mr. Carew's death on the 23rd October, she went to Maruya's again with her friend Miss Christoffel to try and get the piece of paper she had taken. She could not get it, but while the man was looking for it he found another one which he said had been brought on the 20th. [Paper produced. It ordered a bed pan and a bottle of Fowler's solution of arsenic, and was signed by Mrs. Carew.] She was anxious to get back the paper she took on the 21st because Mrs. Carew, on the night of Mr. Carew's death, denied having written it and said it was in Mr. Carew's handwriting. Mrs. Carew said Mr. Carew had taken his own life and that she had a letter in her possession saying he was going to do it or had done it.

Before leaving Mrs. Carew's service, had you, for reasons of your own, looked at the waste-paper basket?—Yes.

Where was the waste-paper basket kept?—In the dining-room.

Why did you look there?—I expected to find letters of my own there.

What letters of your own?—From my home. Letters you had received?—Letters I hadn't received.

Did you find any letters there?—I never found any of my own there.

Did you find any others?—Yes.

Fragments of others, rather?—Yes.

What did you do with those fragments?—I gave them to my friend Fraulein Christoffel.

Did she stitch them together for you?—Yes.

When did you find these?—The first time I ever went to the basket must have been the 23rd or 24th of September.

Did you find them all at the same time?—No. I found the fragments of the first on the 23rd or 24th of September, and the rest after my return from Miyanoshta, the first Monday in October.

Elsa Christoffel, a Swiss nurse in the employ of Mr. and Mrs. Dunlop, said she had been resident in Yokohama since November, 1894.

You have been a great friend of Miss Jacobs since her arrival here, I believe?—Yes, I have; she is the only friend I have got here.

She has confided to you from time to time what troubles she has had?—She did. We were in the habit of telling everything to one another.

Did Miss Jacobs give you any fragments of paper that she had picked up somewhere?—Yes, she did.

Recently?—I don't know the date when I received them. I never keep any dates. It was a little while ago in September and again in October. I never keep any dates.

She did not give them to you all at the same time?—No, not at the same time.

Were they in order or disorder when she brought them to you?—They were in disorder.

Did you stitch the fragments together to make sense of them as well as you could?—Yes, I did that.

Did you preserve all the fragments that she brought to you, or did you destroy any of them?—I preserved all of them.

Would you recognize your work again if you saw it?—Certainly I should.

In the presence of Miss Jacobs you handed to me some papers one Sunday night in November?—Yes, it was on the 8th November, in the evening. I remember that date.

His Honour—Were they fragments?—No, they were sewn together in the form of letters at that time.

Mr. Litchfield—Are these the letters?—Yes, they are.

Have you any more pieces of paper that you received from Miss Jacobs?—Yes, I have more. They are not in pieces. I sewed them together. They are in the form of letters.

Have you got them with you?—No, I have not.

You have not shown them to me?—No, you have never seen them. I have not shown them to you.

Are they in the same handwriting as the bulk of these?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—I object to any question of that kind unless you introduce the letters.

Mr. Litchfield—When can you get them?—I can go and get them now if you wish me to do so.

The court adjourned for ten minutes while the witness went to fetch the letters. On her return she handed to the Crown Prosecutor a packet containing some letters stitched together and some pieces, and said those were all she ever had. Mr. Dunlop saw the pieces before she stitched them together. The patchwork letter produced by Mrs. Carew at the inquest was not composed of fragments which witness received from Miss Jacobs; she had never seen those except at the inquest and in court that day.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder the witness said she advised Miss Jacobs to collect the pieces of letters.

When did you give that advice?—When she told me she had seen them in the waste-paper basket.

Why did you give her that advice?—Because I thought they could be useful to her some day if it should come out that men were paying visits there at that house not exactly in the form of house friends. I was afraid my friend's character might in such a case perhaps have to suffer.

You thought it would be useful to Miss Jacobs and not to Mrs. Carew?—Useful to Miss Jacobs should the visits be known by the husband or outsiders.

The witness was then requested by Mr. Lowder to write from his dictation, and having done so (some of the dictation being from "Annie Luke's" letters) Mr. Lowder intimated that he intended to have the writing examined by an expert and compared with certain documents put in at the inquest.

14th November.

Ah Kwong, a Chinese boy twelve years of age living at the Convent, was called and said he came from Hongkong and that his home was in Canton. He had been in Japan a year and a half.

As there was some trouble in connection with the interpretation of this witness's evidence he was withdrawn for the time being.

Hayashi Shichiro, of Maruya's, was called, but not being in attendance the court adjourned for a short time.

After a brief adjournment, Mr. Moss (Clerk of the Court) said—At Mr. Walford's request I handed to him an envelope containing exhibits. The envelope was opened in my presence and now I am unable to find the first one.

His Honour examined the exhibits and said—The exhibit Upsilon was not there. Have you anything to say, Mr. Walford?

Mr. Walford—I received the envelope from Mr. Moss closed. I opened it with Mr. Moss's consent and took out the exhibits that were there. I did not look at the lettering of the exhibits, and I am unable to say whether that particular one was given to me or not. Upon Mr. Moss reporting to me that it was missing I made a search for it on my desk and I have been unable to find it.

His Honour—You say you did not look at the exhibits?

Mr. Walford—I did not look at the lettering of them. Therefore I am unable to say whether that particular exhibit was inside the envelope handed to me. I have since made a search and enquired of the two persons sitting next to me, and I have not found the exhibit.

His Honour—Were the exhibits out of your own hands?

Mr. Walford—They were spread on this desk.

His Honour—Were the exhibits in your hands, Mr. Lowder?

Mr. Lowder—I handled one or two of them.
His Honour—Did you see the one marked Upsilon?

Mr. Lowder—I did not notice.

His Honour—Did you take any notice of the lettering?

Mr. Lowder—No.

Mr. Litchfield—It would be a large piece of paper.

His Honour—Of the size of note paper. Will the usher kindly see that nobody leaves the court without the special permission of the court. Mr. Walford, were the exhibits handled by your client?

Mr. Walford—Yes, they were.

Mr. Litchfield—I think it was here this morning. I am under the impression that I saw it, but I would not like to say.

Hayashi Shichiro was then called and gave evidence as to the supplying of arsenic and other drugs from Maruya's.

The examination of the witness then closed.

At this point all within the barrier which divides the court were requested by His Honour to remain, and the public were asked to withdraw. Two Japanese were also detained, but on its being found that they were newspaper boys in attendance to carry "copy" from the reporters to their respective offices they were allowed to leave. The representatives of the Press were then asked to look through their papers and see if they had nothing that did not belong to them; and on their stating that the missing exhibit was not among their papers they were asked to leave. Counsel were asked to search among their papers, but they replied that they had already made a search without result. Shortly after the reporters quitted the room they were followed by counsel and the accused's bondsmen (Messrs. Robison and Hutchison), the Accused remaining in the Court.

After the court was cleared the accused was searched by a female, and the missing document was found in the sleeve of her dress. The circumstances, under which the document was discovered will no doubt be related in subsequent proceedings, but we (*Japan Gazette*) understand the letter was found between the cloth sleeve of the dress and the crape cuff.

16th November.

His Honour, shortly after taking his seat, said—I think it proper and necessary to state that after the court-room had been cleared on Saturday the Court directed a female in the employment of the Court to search the accused in the court-room. The searcher afterwards reported to the Court that she found the missing exhibit in the cuff of the dress of the accused. The exhibit has been delivered to the Court and replaced with the records.

Mr. Walford—The matter to which you have referred, sir, is one upon which I feel very strongly, and in which both the Clerk of the Court and myself might have been very seriously compromised. I therefore find it impossible to act any longer for the accused in this case. Had I been engaged alone in the case I should naturally have hesitated before retiring; but I am glad to think that the defence remains in the hands of my able and learned friend, and that the interests of the accused will in no way suffer.

Mr. Walford then left the Court.

Harry Vansittart Dickinson was the first witness called.

His Honour—What is your position? I think you are in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank?—Yes.

What is your position in the Bank?—Clerk.

Mr. Litchfield—Are you a British subject resident in Yokohama?—Yes.

You have been resident in Yokohama for some years, haven't you?—Yes.

And in the month of October last were you staying on a visit at a house on the Bluff?—Yes, I was staying at No. 160, Bluff.

From about the 28th September to the 12th or 14th October, was it not?—I forget the day I went there. It was the last two or three days in September, I think, to the 15th or 16th of October.

You were the friend of Mrs. Carew, I believe?—Yes.

And had for some time been on friendly terms with Mr. Carew?—I had always been on friendly terms with Mr. Carew, with one exception.

That exception led to a quarrel, didn't it, between you and Mr. Carew?—That exception was a quarrel with Mr. Carew some years back, which has long since been made up.

While you were staying on the Bluff, were you in correspondence with Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Frequently?—Frequently.

Mr. Litchfield (to witness)—Is this letter (Epsilon) in your handwriting?

Witness (after perusing the letter)—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield—Look at the last page. (Reading from a copy of the letter)—"I have been thinking much about your probably having to meet this woman. I wish for your sake you could refuse—" Is this part of the letter?

Witness—Yes, quite right. I wrote that.

Mr. Litchfield then read as follows:—

"I have been thinking much about your probably having to meet this woman. I wish for your sake you could refuse to, but have come to think that you cannot well do so. Do you know anything against her? If not, you should meet her, I think. It would bring you endless bullying, refusing, and I want that to be avoided if possible. If you refuse, refuse on the ground that he has insulted you before others and you do not wish for a repetition. Refuse first on those grounds and after that on account of his relation to her. That is to say, if you refuse at all."

Mr. Litchfield—Was that letter by you, Mr. Dickinson, written in answer to a note from Mrs. Carew? (Exhibit Ro handed in.) That is Mrs. Carew's handwriting, is it not? You know Mrs. Carew's handwriting?—Yes.

Was it addressed to you?—I understand that this letter was taken out of Mrs. Carew's waste-paper basket. If that is so I am perfectly certain this particular letter was not addressed to me, but I recollect receiving a letter of very similar import. I do not recollect the wording at all, but I recollect the main subject.

His Honour—You recollect receiving a letter on the same subject?

Witness—I recollect the question that is in that letter. I recollect being asked that question that Mr. Litchfield is now asking me. I am asked whether this letter (pointing to the one in his own handwriting) is in answer to this; but I do not recollect receiving this letter.

Mr. Litchfield (to witness)—Do you know who the woman was referred to in your letter, part of which I have just read?

Witness—I never knew her.

Was it Annie Luke?—No.

I do not wish the name unless you wish to give it. Do you know the lady?—I know about the lady. I have since heard of her and who she was.

Did you never send any letters you had received from Mrs. Carew back to her?—No, I never recollect doing that. I am perfectly certain I never did.

Is this exhibit in your handwriting (Exhibit marked Zeta)?—Yes, that is evidently in my handwriting.

And also written to Mrs. Carew?—Yes. May I read the letter?

Amongst things in that letter you say—that is it begins—"Never mind my coming in to dinner. I shall not feel hurt if I am left out of your parties. Nothing he can do will hurt my feelings now. It is worse for you than me to hear all his abuse. I am only afraid that he may say something rude to me before others, and I can't sit quietly under that; only you would be treated worse than ever if we came to an open row again."

Mr. Litchfield—Had Mrs. Carew been complaining to you of her husband's treatment of her?—Yes, she told me of her husband's ill-treatment of her.

Then further on in the letter you say—"I tear the half sheet off. I jot down points re your will. Are you coming to the Bank to-morrow." Then there is a postscript—"I would go and see Litchfield some time before he gets into the busy season. Tear all this up when you have taken a note of it; the notes re the will, I mean. Of course you destroy letters." Did you write that?—Yes.

Was this exhibit Eta written by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

You begin the letter—"It will be necessary to be quite in accord with each other on broad questions. We must be able to answer alike." These remarks, I believe, do not refer to the proceedings which are now going on? They

refer to other matters and not to this enquiry?—No, certainly not to entirely other matters. It was long before.

And then you go on on the last page—"I know nothing of the legal proceedings. You can say, of course, I recommended going to a lawyer in case your husband proved too difficult to manage about the money. Nothing more. Your note with the cap has disturbed me very much. It makes me mad to think of what you are subjected to and of what you may be subjected to. Please be so careful not to drive him into any violent acts. He shall be punished, but that would be but a small compensation for any harm done you. You must tell L. about last night." By L, I presume, you mean Litchfield?

Witness—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield (quoting)—"You must tell L. about last night, and say that you really cannot say when you may be compelled to leave him from fear of personal violence." "Him," I presume, is Mr. Carew and not Litchfield?

Witness—Mr. Carew.

Mr. Litchfield (still quoting)—"Ask his advice as to what you should do if you should ever get frightened. It will cause him to hurry up with the case any way. It is quite clear to me now—at all risks, at all hazards, Divorce. You must not mind your poor brother and father's feelings over the scandal. Your personal safety is of more importance to us all than any scandals, and then you have your children. If you succeed in proving the necessity for divorce you will have no trouble in convincing the Court of the unfitness of your husband to have the care of the children. You will then always have the comfortable feeling of having done rightly by the two little beings for whose lives you are responsible. Now and always I will help you in all things if you want me, and I know you do, and be with you while I may. Keep up your heart, my dear one, and do not give in now under his cruelty and coarseness. If you are ever offered personal violence you must appeal to your brother and servants for immediate help and to your lawyer for further guidance. Send for me whenever you may need me. Burn all this when you have read and learnt the early part."

Mr. Litchfield—Exhibit Iota. Is that written by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Exhibit Kappa—Was this written by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield—In that you say (quoting): "I should think you might ask for the letter. I should do so without hesitation. Ask L. if you like, but I should go and do it. I think I will come up as arranged to the house. If I see the usual signal I could also look in after tiffin perhaps, though I am not certain re this. I should go and ask for the letter, taking care, however, no strangers are near you." Do you know what letter you refer to?—A letter Mrs. Carew told me she knew to have been addressed by her husband to somebody, care of the Post Office.

Exhibit Lambda—Was that written by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Exhibit Mu—Was that written by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

In the course of this fragment you say, "I send you 'The Play Actress.' H." And in a postscript you say, "I will give you 'The Play Actress' when I see you." The 'Play Actress' is a novel, isn't it?—Yes, it is a novel.

Did you show "The Play Actress" to Mrs. Carew?—I believe I did. I got it out of the library at the Club for her, and I believe I sent it to her. I can't recollect whether I gave or sent it to her, but I am under the impression that I let her have it.

His Honour—You gave or sent it?—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield—It is in the library of the United Club, I believe?—Yes.

And was taken by you from the library on the 28th September and returned by you on the 9th October?—I cannot recollect the date I took it out.

Somewhere about that time, October?—Yes. Have you read the novel?—Yes.

The heading of one of the early chapters of the novel is "The Lass in Black," is it not?—I am sure I cannot tell you. It is long since I read it.

You cannot remember that?—No, I have no recollection of it.

Exhibit Nu—Did you write that?—Yes.

His Honour—To Mrs. Carew?—Yes, to Mrs. Carew.

Mr. Litchfield—The pencil note exhibit Omicron?—I can't read it all, but it is my handwriting.

His Honour—Written to Mrs. Carew?—Yes. Mr. Litchfield—Exhibit Pi?—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield (to his Honour)—These letters I have not read myself yet, sir, and I don't know whether anything turns upon them. (Handing a letter to witness). Is that (marked Sigma) in your handwriting and addressed to Mrs. Carew? Do you remember writing that note?—I wrote the note.

Mr. Litchfield—Did you write: "Grown tired of you is good, but not to my thinking strong enough. However, you will know best what you write. I call his treatment brutal. Ask Litchfield on Monday if in the event of your getting away with or without his consent, he can force you to return to him, and if you find he has such a—" Can you read it? Witness (reading)—"Such a power."

Mr. Litchfield (reading)—"Then I should tell Li the real state of affairs—how it is impossible for you really to live with him as a wife, and your real wishes on the subject."

His Honour—I have got here that you wrote this note?—Yes.

To Mrs. Carew?—Yes. I wrote it to Mrs. Carew.

Mr. Litchfield—Then exhibit Tau?—Yes, it is my handwriting.

I have no questions on that. Exhibit Upsilon? Did you write that to Mrs. Carew?—Yes, I wrote this.

Mr. Litchfield—Exhibit Fi?—Yes.

His Honour—The same answer?—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield—Exhibit Ki?—It is in my handwriting, and must have been written to Mrs. Carew.

Mr. Lowder put no questions to the witness. On his evidence being read over to him witness said he thought it was somewhere about the beginning of October when he took the book out of the library.

His Honour—You may be called again, Mr. Dickinson. Will you be so good as to hold yourself in readiness if required.

Reginald Colomore Porch was next called.

His Honour—Your occupation?—I have none.

Mr. Litchfield—You are the brother of Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

How long have you been in Yokohama?—Since March 21st.

During that time have you been residing with Mr. and Mrs. Carew at No. 169, Bluff?—Yes.

You remember Mr. Carew's illness?—Yes.

You remember the day he died?—Yes.

Do you remember as you were going up to tiffin that day meeting Dr. Wheeler?—Yes.

Did he give you any instructions as to the care of Mr. Carew?—Yes.

What were they?—He told me to remain in the house till he came with a stretcher to take him to the Hospital.

Did he give you any instructions about Mr. Carew's diet?—I don't remember his giving me any instructions.

You remained in the house, I believe, till Dr. Wheeler returned? Did you remain in Mr. Carew's room during that time?—Yes; I had tiffin downstairs from half-past twelve to one, and remained in Mr. Carew's room from one o'clock till nearly three.

Do you know if Mr. Carew had any tiffin that day—beef tea or anything?—I don't think he did. He may have.

Witness was not cross-examined.

Mr. Litchfield, replying to his Honour, said his next witness would be Mr. Schedel, who was not yet present. He proposed to call him at two o'clock. He understood the amah could not appear to-day, so he would try to get an interpreter to examine Ah Kwong, the Chinese boy, in the afternoon. The evidence of Dr. Divers he proposed to take on Tuesday, if the witness could attend then. He had asked Dr. Divers to wire him stating whether it would be convenient to attend or not.

An adjournment was then made for tiffin.

On the Court resuming in the afternoon, Joseph Schedel was called. Witness is a chemist and gave evidence as to supplying arsenic and other drugs.

Ah Kwong was then called, Kwong How Cheong, interpreter to the Chinese Consulate,

acting as interpreter. The witness said he was twelve years of age and had been in the employ of Mr. and Mrs. Carew from the fifth moon of the last Chinese year until October last. His duties were to act as table boy and open doors. On the day Mr. Carew was removed to the hospital he went upstairs once.

What did he go upstairs to do at that time?—There was a lady visitor come in.

Was Mrs. Carew upstairs with her husband at that time?—Several other visitors went upstairs, the Doctor and some others, he cannot remember who they were.

What time was this?—About three o'clock in the afternoon.

Was Mr. Carew taken off to the Hospital shortly after this?—Soon after the arrival of the doctor he was removed to the Hospital.

I want to know if soon after the lady called Mr. Carew was removed to the Hospital?—Yes, it was before Mr. Carew was removed to the Hospital that the lady visitor came in.

Did the lady visitor go upstairs?—No, sir.

Who did she ask to see?—She asked for Mr. Carew.

Had he ever seen the lady before?—Yes, he had seen her before.

How many times?—Three or four times.

Does he remember the first time he saw her?—He cannot remember when he saw her, but he saw her three or four times.

She called at the house, I suppose, when he saw her?—Yes.

At any time did she go indoors?—She went indoors.

At each time did she ask to see Mr. or Mrs. Carew?—Two or three times she wanted to see Mrs. Carew.

Mr. Lowder did not cross-examine.

18th November.

Dr. Divers was the first witness called. He gave technical evidence as to his analysis of the contents of the deceased's intestines.

Rachel Greer, who also gave her name as Kanayue Chiyaki, a servant who had been in the employ of Mr. and Mrs. Carew since the month of March and was still in Mrs. Carew's employ, was next examined. She said Mrs. Carew nursed her husband. The medicines were kept on a table by the side of Mr. Carew. Witness was told to bring beef tea and cornflour from the kitchen and she took it and gave it to her master. She took it sometimes three times in the day, sometimes once. When she did not take it the Chinese boy took it. She thought she took it to him once on the day he died: she did not remember the hour very well, but she thought it was before twelve o'clock.

On one occasion during his illness Mr. Carew gave her a memorandum which she gave to a jinricksha man to take to Maruya's. That was on the 18th or 19th, when Mrs. Carew was not at home. The jinricksha man brought back a bottle, which witness gave to Mr. Carew. She did not know what he did with it.

Mr. Lowder—When you took cornflour and beef tea to your master during his illness, from whom did you take it?—Sometimes I made it myself, sometimes I got it from the cook who made it.

His Honour—The cook made it?—Yes, when the cook was not there I made it.

Mr. Lowder—Did you ever receive it, either the beef tea or the cornflour, from the hands of Mrs. Carew?—I never did.

Mr. Litchfield—These are all the witnesses I have to call before your honour.

Mr. Lowder—I call no evidence, sir.

His Honour—Do you intend to address the Court, Mr. Litchfield?

Mr. Litchfield—Upon the evidence I have laid before you, sir, I have to ask for the committal of the accused for trial before a jury. The evidence is essentially, as in most cases of this kind, circumstantial. I submit there is a prima facie case to justify committal for trial before a jury.

The medical testimony points to the fact of death by arsenic or some other poison. The evidence I have laid before you shows that arsenic in considerable quantities was introduced into the house shortly before his death. Part of that arsenic was traced directly to the hands of Mrs. Carew.

It was shown that Mrs. Carew had the chief duty of nursing the deceased during the time of his illness. It was also shown, I submit, in spite of all appearances to the contrary, that the accused led one person to believe that there were

serious and almost irreconcilable differences between them. These are the broad facts before you. I ask for committal.

His Honour—I am of opinion that the evidence is such as ought to be placed before a jury. I am not sure the charge was read when the case was called. Will you read the charge, Mr. Moss?

Mr. Moss then read the charge, which was as follows:—In Her Britannic Majesty's Court for Japan, Kanagawa, the 11th day of November, 1896. Henry Charles Litchfield, Barrister-at-law and Her Britannic Majesty's Crown Prosecutor in Japan, of Yokohama, Japan, on oath charges that he hath just cause to believe and suspect that on the twenty-second day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six Edith May Carew did wilfully feloniously and of her malice aforethought kill and murder one Walker R. H. Carew contrary to the form of the statute in such case made and provided and against the peace of our Lady the Queen Her Crown and Dignity.—HENRY LITCHFIELD, H.B.M. Crown Prosecutor in Japan. Sworn at Yokohama aforesaid this eleventh day of November, 1896, before me, JAMES TROOP, Assist. Judge.

His Honour—The name has since been amended to Edith May Hallowell Carew in the minutes of the Court. Edith May Hallowell Carew, before proceeding to read the order I wish to ask your counsel a question. (To Mr. Lowder). It is provided in our rules, as you are aware, that the evidence should be read over to the accused before taking her statement, in addition to its being read over to each witness. With your consent I should like to dispense with this reading, otherwise the evidence will be read over.

Mr. Lowder—I am quite willing to waive it, sir.

His Honour—It has all been read in her hearing, every word of it.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, every word.

His Honour to the accused—Having heard the evidence, do you wish to say anything in answer to the charge? You are not obliged to say anything unless you desire to do so, and whatever you say may be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence against you on the trial. As I give you clearly to understand, you have nothing to hope from any promise of favour and nothing to fear from any threat that may be held out to you to induce you to make any confession of your guilt, but whatever you say may be given in evidence against you, notwithstanding any promise or threat.

The accused—I have no statement to make.

Mr. Lowder—The accused wishes to add the word "now," I have no statement to make now.

His Honour—I have already expressed my opinion that the evidence is such as is sufficient to put the accused for her trial. I therefore commit you, Edith May Hallowell Carew, to await your trial until you are delivered in the due course of the law. As accused is defended by counsel it is unnecessary to give her the evidence, but you are entitled to a copy of the evidence, as stated in the rules. The witnesses Mr. Dickinson and Miss Jacobs will come forward.

Mr. Dickinson came forward to the witness-box, but Miss Jacobs was not in Court.

His Honour—Just take a seat one moment, Mr. Dickinson. Before the Court rises I wish to say with regard to persons summoned to serve on juries that the Court will in future accept no excuses from persons not appearing who are summoned to sit upon juries, unless they have perfectly valid excuses, such as serious sickness or the like. But mere forgetfulness of the time or variation of watches will not be treated as valid excuses nor penalties remitted on such grounds. The reporters will kindly note this.

Mr. Dickinson was then sworn in his own recognizance of \$100 to appear to give evidence at the trial.

Mr. Lowder—I am not instructed, sir, at this moment to ask for bail, but I trust that Mrs. Carew, of course in proper custody, will be permitted to return to her home to obtain such necessary articles as she may require for the night.

His Honour—You are not prepared to ask the Judge.

Mr. Lowder—No, I am not prepared at this moment.

His Honour gave the necessary instructions to the constable of the Court to escort Mrs. Carew to her house, and the proceedings then terminated.

Mrs. Carew proceeded to her house on the Bluff, accompanied by Mr. Kircher (constable of H.B.M. Consulate), and was then taken to the British Gaol in the Settlement, where she is now lodged.

An application for bail was subsequently made to the Judge in Chambers and was refused.

The writer of "By the Way" in the *Japan Gazette*, writing on the 17th November, said:—

It will be remembered that in this column last week I stated that the Carew case was the only subject which Yokohama residents seemed for the time being capable of discussing. If the interest in the case was great then, it is infinitely greater now. Wherever men—or women—are gathered together, whether for business or pleasure, the conversation inevitably reverts to this latest sensation. A merchant said to me on Saturday afternoon, "The excitement is demoralising the community, and it is a pity the newspapers can't be suppressed."

The surprises of the past week were the discovery that letters found in the wastepaper basket were in existence and the missing and subsequent finding of one of these letters. Such extracts from the "stitched letters" as the Crown Prosecutor thought it was necessary to read have been made public; and it is possible that in the event of the case going for trial before the judge and jury all the letters will be read. In the interests of all, I think, it would be better that the whole of each letter having any bearing on the case should be read. To read only extracts gives rise to suspicion.

I happened to be in Court on Saturday when it was ascertained that one of the exhibits was missing. As may be supposed, the discovery caused no little surprise, and one of the most eager in the search for the missing document was Mrs. Carew, who knelt on the floor and picked up a little pile of scraps of paper which Mr. Lowder or Mr. Walford had previously torn up and dropped. How a search was subsequently made and the letter found my readers have already read. To know that the exhibit had been traced must have been a great relief to Mr. Walford and Mr. Moss.

There was naturally some speculation in the public mind on Saturday afternoon and Sunday as to whether Mr. Walford would continue to appear on behalf of the accused, and his withdrawal created no surprise. His statement after the Court announced that the letter had been found on the accused was, in what he said and in his way of saying it, dignified and impressive. Mrs. Carew's case remains in the hands of Mr. Lowder, and we may be sure that everything possible will be done in the accused's behalf.

I have already referred to the interest evinced in the case. This has been shown by the large attendance at the Court from day to day. One day last week a lady, who had been drawn to the Court by curiosity, brought her opera-glasses, which she kept directed at Mrs. Carew. I don't think a police court is a place to which ladies should resort, but if they do come, I hope they will leave their opera-glasses behind.

THE DEATH OF A DIOCESAN SCHOOL PUPIL.

ADJOURNED INQUEST.

On the 25th November Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings resumed the inquest on the body of Tong Wing, eleven years of age, whose English name is Frank Butler, and who died on the 2nd inst. from injuries alleged to have been inflicted in the Diocesan School and Orphanage, where he was a scholar.

The jurymen were—Messrs. C. C. Corveth, O. Wegener, and Donald MacDonald.

The Rev. R. F. Cobbold occupied a seat on the Bench.

Mr. H. B. Bowley (of Mr. H. L. Dennys's office) appeared on behalf of the parents of the deceased; Mr. V. H. Deacon represented the Diocesan School and Orphanage; and Mr. Wilkinson watched the case on behalf of Mr. Ralphs.

Inspector Quincey said—By order of the Captain Superintendent of Police I visited the Diocesan Home School at 10 a.m. on the 16th inst. Mr. Piercey went to Mr. Ralphs's classroom. I stood outside the window. I heard Mr. Piercey ask Mr. Ralphs for a pointer. Mr. Ralphs went to his desk near the window, where I stood and took out the pointer produced. [The pointer is about two feet long.] He gave it to Mr. Piercey and Mr. Piercey gave it to me.

Dr. Atkinson, recalled, said—I see the pointer produced by the last witness.

His Worship—Might this pointer have caused the death of Tong Wing?

Witness—I do not think it is likely that the hemorrhage that produced the death of the deceased could have been caused by a blow with that pointer.

Mr. Deacon—Your Worship, I tender three witnesses on behalf of the Diocesan School.

Ho Kai Tiu—I am fourteen years of age and am a scholar in the Diocesan School. I am in the first (lowest) class. There are seven classes in the school. I have been at the school two years. I know the deceased; he was a boarder. I slept in the same room, but I was not in the same class. I had my meals with him.

His Worship—Did you ever see Mr. Ralphs strike him?

Witness—No.

Never saw him strike the deceased at all?—Yes, I have seen Mr. Ralphs slap him with his hand.

Are you under Mr. Ralphs?—Yes.

You got your lessons in the same room as the deceased?—Sometimes in the same room and sometimes not.

Before the deceased went to the hospital did you ever hear him make a complaint?—The deceased said that he had had a fall.

When?—On Wednesday.

On Wednesday before he went to the hospital?—Yes.

Did he tell you?—Yes.

What time?—About two o'clock in the afternoon.

Where?—In the school—in the largest room, where all the boys assemble.

Did he say how the fall happened?—Yes.

How?—He said he jumped from one table to another.

And in so doing he had fallen?—Yes.

Where did he hurt himself?—On his head.

Anywhere else?—His foot also.

How did you enter upon this conversation? Did you speak to him first, or did he speak to you?—I spoke to him first.

Why?—I saw him putting his right hand at the side of his head.

Did you mention it to anybody else?—No.

Did you ever tell Mr. Piercey about it?—No.

Never mentioned it to anybody?—No.

Not after the boy died?—No.

Never told Mr. Piercey?—No.

Did you sleep near to the deceased?—Yes, we were in the same room.

Were the beds together?—Two or three beds were between ours.

Between that Wednesday and the time he went to the hospital did you hear him again complain at all?—I did not hear any more complaints from him.

What day did Mr. Ralphs strike him?—I forget.

Did you see any marks caused by the fall before he went to the hospital?—I did not.

Mr. Bowley—Do you know what day Tong Wing went to the hospital?

Witness—I do not.

What day before he went to the hospital did he tell you he had had a fall?—On Wednesday.

Which Wednesday?—I do not know which.

What time do you commence work on Wednesday afternoon?—There is no school on Wednesday afternoon.

What time do you have your mid-day meal?—One o'clock.

It was after that that Tong Wing told you he had had a fall?—Yes.

Were all the boys in the school?—No.

How many were there?—I forget.

Were there a dozen there?—I forget.

When did Tong Wing say this fall had happened?—He told me; I did not ask him again.

Was he complaining of his head during the mid-day meal?—No.

Did you see any mark or bruise on his head?—I did not.

Where did he put his hand?—Witness pointed to the right top part of his head.

Have you ever seen Mr. Ralphs slap any other boy?—Yes, I have—more than one.

Does Mr. Ralphs ever take your class?—Yes.

Has he ever slapped you?—No.

Does he get very angry with the boys when they make mistakes?—Not very angry.

Mr. Deacon—This date was on a Wednesday you say, when you saw the boy?

Witness—Yes.

Do you remember the fact that the boy went to the hospital?—Yes.

Can you remember what day of the week he went to the hospital?—I forget.

Can you remember whether it was long after this Wednesday or shortly after this Wednesday?—About a week after.

Can you say positively from your own memory whether it was a week or half a week?—About a week.

Do you mean six or seven days?—Seven or eight days.

Can you say positively that it was not more than four or five days?—About seven or eight days.

Tai Sum said—I am an amah at Mr. Piercey's School. I attend to orphans. I have been employed there seventeen or eighteen years. I know the deceased; he was a pupil in the school. I knew him all the time he was there. He had been weakly this year and seldom came. He went back to school from his holidays between the 7th September and 7th October. I do not remember the date he went to the hospital. One day, about ten days before he went to the hospital, he asked me not to comb his hair so heavily.

His Worship—Did he give any reason?—I asked him why and he said his head was aching. I asked him why he felt an aching in the head and he said he had had a fall.

Did he describe how?—I did not ask so minutely as that.

Did you ask him if he had told anybody else?—He told me he had told another boy.

Did he say when it happened?—No.

Did he tell the master?—No. I asked him why he had not told the master about it. He said the fall had happened two days before and he had not told the master.

Did you see any bruise?—Yes, on the knee.

Did you see any bruise on the head?—No. He asked me to give him some ointment to put on the knee.

Which knee?—I think it was the right knee. I applied some medicine to it at his request.

Between that day and the time the deceased went to the hospital did you dress the knee again?—I did not. Probably the wound got better.

Did he make any complaint to any one else as far as you know between that day and the day he went to the hospital?—I do not know.

Did he complain to you?—He did not.

How soon after the deceased's death did you tell Mr. Piercey of this?—Mr. Piercey did not ask me.

Have you told anyone else?—Inspector Quincey came and asked me and I told him.

Are you the only amah who looks after the boy?—There is another amah.

Did you mention it to her?—I did not.

Did you dress Tong Wing's knee again between that day and the day he went to the hospital?—I did not; sometimes the other amah does it.

Did you ever ask him how the medicine for his knee was doing?—I did, and he said "Good."

How long after you dressed his knee did you ask him that?—On the same day.

You never spoke to him about his knee again?—Never afterwards.

Nor about his head?—No.

And he never complained?—No.

Mr. Bowley—Do all the boys in the school have their knees dressed by you and the other amah?

Witness—The little boys' knees are dressed by us; the big boys dress themselves.

How often do they have their knees dressed?—Every morning.

At what time?—Between 6 and 7 o'clock.

How often do they have their heads shaved?
—Once a week.

All on the same day?—Yes.

What day is that?—Saturday.

On what day of the week did Tong Wing tell you he had had a fall?—I do the ordinary work in the ordinary course.

Do you know the day?—I do not.

Did you see any bruise on his head?—He once had a boil. I did not see any bruise.

What he said was that you were combing his head too roughly?—Yes.

And that was ten days before he went to the hospital?—Yes.

You told the Inspector that the boy had fallen down and hurt his knee?—Yes, I said so.

You did not say anything to the Inspector then about his head?—I did not.

When did you first mention about his head to anybody?—I forget when.

Whom did you first mention it to?—I have not told anybody about the boy's head.

Do you mean you have not mentioned this about his head until the present moment?—I did not tell anybody before I came here.

Mr. Deacon—Just think a moment. I think you told my interpreter. Didn't you come to my office?

Witness—Yes.

When you say you have not told anybody, do you mean you have not told anybody connected with the school?—Yes.

Was the injury above or below the knee?—A little above.

Did you look at the flesh yourself?—Yes.

What was it like?—The skin had come off a little; the flesh was red and blood came out.

Fresh blood or dry blood?—Dry blood.

Did Tong Wing say when he fell?—No, he did not.

Might this be seven or eight or nine days before he went to the hospital?—I am not quite sure about the day.

Mr. Wilkinson—Did he tell you he had injured his head at the same time he had injured his knee?

Witness—Yes.

Li A Sam—I am an amah at the Diocesan School. In the morning I clothe the boys and dress their queues. I have been employed there since the year before last. I knew Tong Wing. I used to dress his queue and clothe him. Once while I was dressing his queue he said he had a pain in his head.

His Worship—How long ago is that?

Witness—It was over ten days before he went to the hospital. He had a lot of ink on his head. When he told me he had a pain in his head I asked him how he accounted for it. He said he had had a fall. While I was combing his hair I asked him why his head was so dirty, because my hands got dirty. He said it was only ink. I wanted to wash his head, but he said he had not enough time in the morning, and in the evening he would not have it washed. I said that as he had a pain in his head he had better ask the mistress for some medicine and he said he would not, as he had had only a fall. Afterwards his grandmother came and I advised her to wash the boy's head. He then left for home. He went away on a Saturday and came back the following Tuesday.

Did you see any bruise on the head?—I did not.

Did he complain of anything else?—No; he was a weak boy and was always sickly.

Mr. Bowley—You say that the boy went away from Saturday to Tuesday. Was it before he went away that he complained of the pain in his head?

Witness—Yes.

The day he went away was the 10th October?—I forget the date.

You remember the Tuesday Tong Wing went to the hospital?—I only remember it was a Tuesday.

The week before he went to the hospital did you dress his queue every morning?—He was for the greater part of the time in bed. He complained of a pain in the foot and fever.

How many days was he in bed before he went to the hospital?—He was in bed for about three days and then he got well again. He was like that often.

Did you dress his hair on the seven days before he went to the hospital?—Yes.

During those seven days did he complain of a pain in his head?—He did not.

Then he complained of this pain weeks before he went to the hospital?—Yes.

And during all that period, from the time he made the first complaint to the day he went to the hospital, did he make no complaint at all?—No; he had fever.

You told the Inspector that the boy had had a fall and had a bruise on his knee?—The Inspector did not ask me.

You heard the other amah speaking to the Inspector?—I could not understand the language.

What language does she speak?—She was speaking some distance away.

You speak the same dialect?—Yes.

When the Inspector was asking the other amah you were sitting close by darning stockings?—I did not hear what was said.

Were you sitting close by her?—Not far off—close by. I did not pay attention to what was said.

Who was the first person you told that the boy had complained of a pain in his head and that it was caused by a fall?—I have not told anybody.

Have you not mentioned it to Mr. Piercey or Mrs. Piercey or to anyone in the school?—I advised the boy to tell the master.

Since the boy's death have you told anyone that he complained of a pain in his head?—Yes, I have.

Did you tell Mr. Piercey?—No; I told some little boys about it.

Did you tell Ho Kai Tin about it?—I did not; I do not speak to Chinese boys. (Laughter.)

Who was the boy you told?—Those very little boys who sleep in the room with me.

Did you not consider it your duty to tell the authorities about it?—I dare not speak; I do not know their language.

Mr. Deacon—Did he give you any particulars of the fall?—He said he had fallen down in the school.

Did he give you any date?—No.

Did he tell you what he was doing?—No, he simply said "Pain."

How many days was it before he went to the hospital?—In the first week he said he had a pain, then he had fever for two days, then he went to school for a day or half a day, and then he had fever again and went to bed. I cannot recollect how many days passed after that before he went to the hospital.

Do you know how many days there are in a week?—We work six days and go to church on the seventh. (Laughter.)

You cannot recollect how many days or weeks it was afterwards when he went to the hospital?—How can I remember all that? So many boys—so much work. (Laughter.)

Mr. Bowley then called the witnesses he tendered to the Court.

Lau Sing said—I am the mother of the deceased. I live in Macao. My boy is twelve—Chinese fashion. He had been in the Diocesan School for two years and a few months. He spent his summer holidays with me in Macao. His grandmother brought him back to school on the 9th October last. He was then in good health. I have not seen him alive since then.

His Worship—Did your boy ever complain to you of being punished?—Witness—Yes.

Did he ever complain of anything else?—He told me of a wooden rod in school which gave pain when it was used to strike a boy.

Was he ever struck with it?—He told me that other boys had been struck and that he had been struck himself. I remarked that he had been lazy.

Did he say who struck him?—He said the third master.

Where?—He told me that when he did not know his lesson the third master would sometimes beat him in the thigh and side with the rod and sometimes with his hand.

He only mentioned the thigh and the side?—Sometimes he was beaten on the head.

What with?—A piece of wood—a wooden rod. He only mentioned the third master. He said none of the other masters struck him.

Did he describe the rod?—He said it was about this length [about two feet] but I did not ask him further questions as I had something to attend to.

When was that?—During the summer holidays. I was buying some cloth and this boy picked up a rod and said "If that rod is used on any person it gives pain."

Did you instruct the grandmother to complain to Mr. Piercey?—No, I was busy at the time. I intended to come myself later to speak to the headmaster, but I got sick and I forgot all about it.

Before the holidays did the boy complain to you of being struck?—No, he did not at that time the third master had not been engaged.

Where were you when the deceased died?—At Macao.

Was he a healthy child?—Formerly he had excellent health.

Mr. Deacon—He suffered from boils?

Witness—Yes, very small boils on the forehead.

How many months ago?—I forget.

Before the summer holidays?—Yes. I will not call them boils. It was an eruption; there were white spots on the head.

How long did he have that?—Between one and two months.

Did a doctor attend him?—Yes, a Chinese doctor.

Didn't the boy have fever?—Yes, a little bit during the summer holidays. He had it about a day. A doctor attended him.

Did he have any other disease?—No.

So that he was rather a weak boy really?—He was a strong boy.

He couldn't be if he had two illnesses in a few months.—He was in good spirits and there was nothing the matter with him.

Did he ever mention the third master's name?—No; he mentioned him simply as the third master.

Did he complain of anything else?—No.

Mr. Wilkinson—He told you the third master was the only master in the school who struck the boys?—Yes.

And that the only thing used for striking the boys was a piece of wood?—Yes.

You are quite sure about that?—Yes.

You understood him to mean a stick?—The boy said it was something like a cane or stick. [The Chinese word was *Kwan*.]

You were casually talking about the school?—The boy had a book in his hand when he mentioned it.

And he told you all the boys in the school were thrashed by the same master?—He did not say so much as that. He said everyone got the cane.

You say you attached no importance to this, thinking he was a lazy boy?—Yes, I said no doubt he deserved it.

As a matter of fact the whole thing went in at one ear and came out of the other?—I did not think it was important.

And it was not until after the boy's death that you remembered this conversation?—Yes.

At this stage the inquiry was adjourned. The inquest was resumed on the 26th November.

Ng A Tai—I am grandmother to the deceased and took him back to the Diocesan School on the 9th September from Macao. I went to the School on Saturday, 10th October, and saw the deceased. He was in good health and there was nothing the matter with him. I took him to Yaumati and brought him back to school on the following Monday. On the way to the school he told me that the third master was at that time teaching his class. He preceded, "I do not know my lesson, and I will not go to school now." He sat on the roadside and I gave him something to eat. He cried. I took him back to the school and arrived there as the gong was ringing for tiffin. I took him upstairs. Whilst he was sitting on the roadside an amah at the school came out and said to him "A Wing, why are you sitting here?" Then my grandson replied "After the gong the third master will not be teaching the class and I am going back to school." The amah replied "That is so, and you must go back to school after tiffin." When I took the boy upstairs I spoke to the amah about the third master beating the boy and told her the boy complained that when he did not know his lessons the third master beat him on his head and everywhere on the body. The amah said "There is no fear; the beating is always inflicted on the thigh." Then I said "No, on the head."

The boy has complained to me before. I cannot give any date. He complained whenever I went there. I went there every Saturday to see him. I saw him again on Saturday, 17th October. He was well. I took him some cakes. I went to Macao and did not see him alive again.

Mr. Wilkinson—Did it ever occur to you to complain to Mr. Piercy?

Witness—No, I did not know the rule. I spoke to the amah.

Do you know the name of the amah? I do not know. I addressed one as No. 1 and the other as No. 2.

There are only two amahs?—I spoke to the older one.

Do you know the name of the third master?—No.

What did the boy call him?—The third master.

Mr. Dennys—Before 17th October, the date you last saw your grandson alive, did he tell you that he had fallen down and hurt his head?

Witness—Not at all.

And on the 17th October, as far as you know, he was perfectly well?—Yes, he came upstairs to see me.

Do you remember the second amah saying anything to you about the boy's head?—I remember what she said. The No. 1 amah told me to take the boy home and wash and shave his head because he had some ink on it.

What date was that?—On Saturday, the 10th October.

Did you wash his head?—I did, and shaved it.

Was there any mark or bruise on his head as if he had been hurt?—No mark whatever.

Did he then say anything about having hurt his head?—No.

His Worship—Do you know the third master by sight?—I do not. I have not seen him before.

Did the boy say what he was beaten with?—

A stick between one and two Chinese feet long.

Hung Pin Lu—I am sixteen years of age. I was a scholar at the Diocesan School from March last year to April this year. I left school because I did not know my lessons and the third master beat me. My father is dead and my mother lives in Hongkong. She does not know that I have left school.

His Worship—When were you beaten by the third master?

Witness—One morning when I was returning from church. Every boarder has to go to church.

What were you beaten with?—He asked me to go to his room. He locked the door of the room and struck me with a stick.

Why?—Because he said I spoke Chinese on the way to church.

Did you complain to Mr. Piercy?—I intended to, but it happened there was a dinner at Mr. Piercy's and I complained to a boy, who told me not to go to Mr. Piercy.

Where were you struck?—He struck me on my legs and afterward on my hands, chest, and stomach.

Did the stick hurt you much?—I had marks of bruises on my legs and he slapped my cheek.

Did the slap hurt you?—I had a red mark. It did not hurt me.

What did he do then?—He unlocked the door, gave me a kick, and sent me out.

What then?—He told me to go to sleep. I really went to Mr. Piercy, but he was at dinner, and after I complained to the boy I went home.

Where do you live?—43, Graham Street.

Who was there?—My mother, and I told her.

Were you ever beaten before?—Yes.

When?—At geography, the third master, Mr. Ralphs, poked me with the pointer.

Often?—Several times.

Why?—On account of not knowing geography.

Did that hurt much?—I felt great pain on one occasion and I went home and told my mother.

You never told Mr. Piercy?—I did not.

What form are you in?—No. 4.

Who taught No. 4 form?—All the masters.

Did Mr. Ralphs teach No. 4 form?—Yes, mostly.

Did Mr. Ralphs ever strike or poke any other boy besides yourself?—He poked those who did not know their lessons.

Did you ever see him poke or strike deceased or beat him in any way?—No, I was not in his class.

Mr. Deacon—When did you first go to the school?

Witness—Last year.

And you have been there a year?—About a year.

And you slept on the premises and had your meals there?—Yes.

Had you anything to complain of about the beds or food?—Yes, I complained of the food on one occasion to Mrs. Piercy.

On one occasion only during the whole year?—Yes.

Generally speaking, apart from your beating, you were comfortable?—Yes, pretty good.

Mr. Wilkinson—And this dreadful beating you say Mr. Ralphs gave you was because you used a few Chinese words?

Witness—Yes.

You hadn't been calling out to passers-by?—

No, I had not been talking.

You hadn't been behaving like a blackguard?—

No.

And when you were caned for it you were very quiet, weren't you?—I did not move. I was beaten with a walking stick.

He has a cane in his school?—I did not see it.

Have you ever been caned by Mr. Ralphs?—

Once.

Where was that; in his room?—He brought a stick from his room and struck me.

Have you always been a good and well-behaved boy under Mr. Ralphs?—I simply talked, but I did not play in school. When I talked he imposed a task of 500 lines upon me. He was angry with everybody.

You have been to another school before this?—

Yes.

Were you always well-behaved there?—No.

You were dismissed from that school?—No.

Were you dismissed because you stole a watch?—

A boy owed me some money and he lent me his watch on it. I pawned it.

And you were thrashed?—Yes.

And then you left?—I left on account of the master beating me.

You had a thrashing from your own brother for running away with \$10 belonging to your mother?—No, he did not thrash me. I did not run away with the money.

You borrowed the money?—It belongs to my eldest sister.

And you borrowed it from her?—I asked her to lend me \$5 to pay my mother. I did not give my mother the money, but paid another account.

Mr. Dennys—How were you caned?

Witness—On the palm of my hand.

When was that?—I do not remember the date. It was about two months after Mr. Ralphs joined the school. He joined the school in August last year.

Who caned you?—Mr. Ralphs.

Were you ever caned by Mr. Piercy?—Yes, on the palm of my hand.

When you were caned by Mr. Ralphs, do you know whether it was entered in the punishment book?—I do not know.

When you were caned by Mr. Piercy it was for going into town without leave?—I do not remember.

With reference to the punishment of Mr. Ralphs when he locked you up in a room and beat you, did it pain you?—There was a mark on the legs and I felt pain.

Show us how he hit you on the chest and stomach.—Witness closed his fist and punched out.

You did not mind the caning, but you objected to be hit with the stick?—I did not object to being struck with the stick. I objected to being struck with the fist.

Did you go back again after that night?—

The next morning the headmaster sent a boy for me. I did not go; I refused.

Why did you refuse?—I was afraid of being beaten again.

Who would beat you for that?—I cannot say—either Mr. Piercy or Mr. Ralphs.

So it was no good complaining to Mr. Piercy of what Mr. Ralphs did?—The boy came for me, but I refused to go and my mother went.

You were comfortable with the exception of the beating?—Yes.

You did not mind the beating on the hands?—

I would not have run away for that. If I was struck with a stick it might have hurt me.

His Worship—Did Mr. Ralphs ever strike you on the head?—Witness—No.

Or anyone else?—No, I did not notice.

John Olsen—I am twelve years of age and attend the Diocesan School. I have been there about four years. I am in the fifth form. I know Tong Wing. Mr. Ralphs has never caned me. He has never hit me on the head with a pointer. I never saw him hit Tong Wing on the head with a pointer. I have seen him box his ears.

By Mr. Dennys—I do not remember when Tong Wing went to the hospital. I am a day scholar.

Kong In Cheung—I am sixteen years of age. I was at the Diocesan School from 1893 to about June this year. I left on account of a beating I received from Mr. Ralphs, the third master. I had never been beaten before with the hand on the face and side—open hand on the face and the clenched fist on the side. I felt pain on the face. That was not the only beating I had. I was beaten before by the third master because I did not know my lessons. He used his hand. Mr. Ralphs never beat me with a stick and I never saw him beat anyone with a stick. My uncle made me go back to school. I have not been beaten since. I went back to school after the summer holidays and left about a month afterwards. I never saw Mr. Ralphs strike the deceased.

By Mr. Deacon—I boarded at the school during the last year. I was not comfortable there. The Chinese food was not very good. It had no good taste or relish. Hunger compelled me to swallow it.

By Mr. Wilkinson—I ran away from school three times altogether. I was punished several times. I cannot, as I am a small boy, say whether I was a good boy. I was not caned once for bullying a little boy, but on one occasion I was caned for misconduct.

By Mr. Dennys—The third master always seriously beat the boys, sometimes with the open hand on the face and sometimes with his clenched fist about the body. I have seen several boys beaten in that way. I remember two or three. I never saw the other masters beat boys with the clenched fist. Tong Wing was a very good boy. He liked to be seen and not heard; he did not open his mouth much. I have never seen him playing cricket or football. I never saw him jumping over tables. He was not a playful boy.

Leung Hing Wan—I am eighteen years of age. I was formerly at the Diocesan School. I left in the seventh month of last year because one night, after we had said our prayers—every boarder has to say his prayers, and I am not a Christian—the third master, Mr. Ralphs, came up and struck me with his hand on the face and with his fist on the side. He said I had been talking, but I had not. I cried. The headmaster came and hit me on the palm with a cane. He then made me stand on a form and after the night lesson was over he told me to stand out on the verandah. The same night I ran home. I was not sent back. I went to my mother, who saw my swollen face. That was the only time I was smacked. I never saw Mr. Ralphs strike a boy on the head with a stick or anything else. I only know that he struck me.

By Mr. Deacon—I remember being caned by Mr. Piercy on July 5th for running away without leave. The other caning was on another occasion—29th August, 1895. On account of that beating I ran away. I did not make a disturbance in the evening school. I wept because I was beaten. I did not speak or laugh to any fellow pupil; there might have been some talking near to me. The entry in the punishment book is not true. I slept in the school and was comfortable.

By Mr. Wilkinson—I did not laugh or jeer during prayers. I was perfectly good during prayer time. After I had been reproved by Mr. Ralphs I did not use bad Chinese words. I said "Save life." I did not make a noise. Mr. Piercy heard me call out.

By Mr. Dennys—I have no ill feeling towards Mr. Ralphs. I did not know Tong Wing. I came here because I was subpoenaed.

Mr. Wilkinson then tendered Choy Po Siu, who said—I am sixteen years of age. I have been a pupil at the school since the first month of last year. I am a day scholar in the third

class. I know Tong Wing. He did not complain to me of having had a tumble before he went to the hospital. Mr. Ralphs has never struck me with the pointer or anything else. I never saw him hit the deceased. I am at the head of the class and have never been caned.

By Mr. Dennis—I do not know when Tong Wing became ill. There are 23 boys in my form. I remember the headmaster examining us in dictation the Wednesday before Tong Wing went to the hospital.

Mr. Dennis—Were all the 23 boys there at the examination?

Witness—I did not notice; they were not all there.

Was Tong Wing there?—I did not notice.

Who made the most mistakes in that dictation?—Before Tong Wing went to the hospital he made the most mistakes in dictation.

He made ten?—More than ten.

How many did you make?—I made no mistakes.

Can you remember what the subject in dictation was?—I do not remember.

Tong Wing was ill the day before that Wednesday?—I did not notice.

Was he sick on the Tuesday before the dictation day?—I do not know.

Do you know whether he was in school the day after the dictation lesson?—I did not notice.

Do you have much to do with the scholars?—I only see them during school hours.

You do not play with them?—After school hours I go home.

What time did you have the dictation lesson?—10.15.

When did it finish?—I do not remember.

Mr. Piercy took the class?—Yes.

After the lesson was finished, was anything said to the boys by Mr. Ralphs?—A boy has to write out each of his mistakes fifty times. They have to show them the next morning.

When does he write them?—After school hours.

Are all the masters in the school the same in their treatment of the boys?—All the same.

If they are good they are not punished?—No.

How are they punished if they are not good?—By making them stand in the verandah and do 100 lines. If this task is not finished at the proper time the boy is slapped on the face.

Have you seen Mr. Ralphs slap the boys in that way?—Yes.

In any other way?—No.

Mr. Deacon—How is the slapping done?—

Witness—With the open hand.

Have you ever seen a master strike with his clenched fist?—No.

Mr. Wilkinson—Ever since Mr. Ralphs went to the school and since Tong Wing's death have you been in the same class?

Witness—Yes.

Then during the whole of the school hours you and Tong Wing would be together?—Yes.

Could anything happen to Tong Wing in school without you seeing it?—If anything had happened I should have seen it.

Do you know where Mr. Ralphs kept the pointer?—Yes, in the drawer in his class-room.

You have never seen Mr. Ralphs use that to punish a boy?—No.

And you are prepared to swear you have never seen Mr. Ralphs strike a boy with a stick?—Yes, I am.

What sort of a character does Mr. Ralphs bear amongst the boys?—Nobody talks against him.

Is he liked?—Yes.

Did you hear any conversation in Court here between Tong Wing's mother and Ho Ka Tin last night?—Yes.

What was it?—The mother of the deceased boy asked Ho Ka Tin, "How many sons has your father got?" Ho Ka Tin did not reply. Then she asked this boy where he lived.

Did you hear her threaten Ho Ka Tin?—Yes. I heard her say "When you go in you speak the truth. If you don't I'll tell some one to beat you."

Did she tell him what to say?

His Worship—Ho Ka Tin has given evidence.

Mr. Wilkinson—The boy has left the colony in consequence of the threats.

Mr. Dennis—If he has, what on earth has that to do with this enquiry?

Mr. Wilkinson—A lot of things have been

brought out that have nothing to do with this inquiry.

The question was not pursued and the examination of the witness was closed.

Mr. Wilkinson said he had several more witnesses to call in the interests of Mr. Ralphs, and he asked for another adjournment.

His Worship, after consulting the jury, decided to call Mr. Ralphs and complete the case.

Edwin Ralphs said—I am third master at the Diocesan School. I joined the school on 9th August, 1895. Beside myself there are the second master, the fourth master, and the head master. Hung Piu Lu was punished by me on the 19th April last for behaving in a disorderly manner on the way from the cathedral. The punishment consisted of three or four strokes across the breech with a cane. I informed Mr. Piercy on the following morning. The punishment did not take place in the road, but in the open doorway of the corridor. I have never hit any boy at any time over the head with the pointer produced or with a cane or stick.

Mr. Dennis—Do you remember this poor boy, Tong Wing?—Yes.

What sort of a boy was he?—Quiet generally. He gave no trouble except as regards his work. He was very dull, so dull that I sometimes thought he was lacking in mental powers.

He was frequently on the sick list?—Yes. He returned late from the summer vacation because of his illness at home.

He went to the hospital on a Tuesday?—Yes, the 27th October.

On Monday, the 19th, he was in school, was he not?—Yes. Tuesday he was sick; Wednesday and Thursday he was present; and on Friday and Saturday he was sick.

He died the following Monday?—Yes.

Did you ever beat Tong Wing at all?—Will you say what you mean?

I ask you whether you ever beat him?—Did you assault him?—He was never caned or struck with a stick or anything else but the open hand and that must have taken place before the summer vacation.

Are you prepared to swear that you did not lift your hand to Tong Wing after the summer vacation?—To the best of my recollection I did not.

When did the summer vacation cease?—The school reassembled on the 24th August. Tong Wing returned on the 10th September.

I gathered from your answer just now that you may have beaten him before the summer vacation?—I may have slapped him in the face.

By that you mean once?—It may have been more than once, but not frequently.

Once or twice you mean?—Yes.

You made allowances for the boy and treated him kindly?—Yes, he had nothing to complain of.

Before he went to the hospital did you hear of his having a fall?—No, none of the boys would have reported such a thing.

That is a matter of opinion. You saw no marks on his head two weeks before he went to the hospital?—No.

Do you remember the Sunday night before the boy died?—Yes.

When did you first hear that the boy was considered to be seriously ill?—About 10 o'clock on that Sunday night.

Tell us exactly what you heard.—Mr. Piercy said to me, "Tong Wing is very sick and the doctor wishes me to send for his friends." Then Mr. Piercy asked me, "Do you know if Tong Wing has had a fall or a blow on the head?" The doctor seems to think he must have received one. He said nothing more to me at that time. I said I had not heard of anything of the kind.

Was that all the conversation that took place between you and Mr. Piercy that evening?—That was all he said to me.

Tong Wing was in your class?—Yes, I took them in more subjects than the other masters.

Did you that night make enquiries whether Tong Wing had had a blow or fall?—No. Mr. Piercy asked the boys in my presence.

At that time had Mr. Piercy, as far as you know, seen Tong Wing?—No.

Mr. Piercy went to the hospital that night?—Yes, after speaking to me.

Did he speak to you after returning from the hospital?—Yes. He said, "Tong Wing seems a little better." That was all he said to me as far as I remember.

Did he or did he not inform you he had received a letter?—He told me he had received a letter, but he did not tell me the contents beyond saying the doctor thought the boy had had a blow.

There was no suggestion that night that you had inflicted the blow?—No. Before going to the hospital Mr. Piercy called a boy out and asked him if Tong Wing had had a blow.

What time does the school assemble?—Prayers take place at 8.45, when the school assembles. The boarders are mustered at 6.30. On Monday they attend to their clothes and books and have breakfast at 8.

Mr. Piercy came to my bedroom about seven o'clock on the morning of the 2nd inst. He said "Tong Wing is dead." He then showed me the letter he received from Dr. Atkinson.

Mr. Dennis here re-read Dr. Atkinson's letter and asked—When he showed you that letter what did he say?—I do not remember that he made any remark.

Can you say that he made no remark?—After showing me the letter he simply said, "This is the letter I received from Dr. Atkinson last night."

Did he say anything more between that time and breakfast?—You know it is a matter you must remember.—I cannot remember his saying anything directly on the case. He gave me advice as to how to proceed in the matter.

Did Mr. Piercy tell you, yes or no, that the boy had made a statement accusing you?—Yes.

Then why can't you say so?—Did he tell you that he said you had struck him?—Yes, Mr. Piercy said "Tong Wing said you struck him on the head with a ruler." Mr. Piercy also said that on one occasion Tong Wing said it was on Wednesday, and on another occasion he said it was Saturday. Mr. Piercy also said, "The Doctor said to Tong Wing, 'That could not be, because there is no mark on your head.'" The boy replied "Yes," meaning that the statement was true.

Did you make any reply to Mr. Piercy before breakfast?—I do not remember saying anything. I was too much surprised to say anything before breakfast. Mr. Piercy did not say anything more to me about what took place in the hospital.

You say that just before 8 o'clock Mr. Piercy advised you how to act?—He said it would be advisable to get legal advice.

The boy was examined in dictation on the Wednesday by the head master?—Yes.

How many mistakes did he make?—Either eight or ten.

You say you have never hit that boy?—Can you give us any reason whatever for the boy making that deliberate false statement about you in the hospital?—I can only account for it in this way. If the boy knew what he was saying it might have arisen in this way. On the occasion to which he refers he made eight or ten mistakes and I called him to my desk and said it was very bad and I should have to suggest to Mr. Piercy that he be transferred to a lower form, where the work would be easier. The boy may have felt the disgrace and thought of it in the hospital. The boy made no remark to me. I spoke to him in the class room. All the boys were present.

Were you very much annoyed with the boy?—Not in the same way I should have been with another boy. I was not angry. I told him the work was too hard for him. I spoke to him much more kindly than I should have done to other boys.

You say that was the sole cause for his making that statement?—No, I do not say it is the sole cause. That is the only reason I can give.

Supposing you tapped a boy suddenly, with this pointer, it would give him a nasty tap?—Yes.

Do you swear solemnly that you have never struck a boy with the pointer?—I have never struck a boy on the head.

I did not say on the head.—I may have tapped a boy on the shoulder when pointing to something or to call his attention.

Are you prepared to swear positively you have never touched a boy with the thick end of the pointer?—Never.

Have you ever used any other ruler since you went to the school?—No, except one in my room, which is three inches shorter.

Did you reply to Mr. Piercy when he told you what the boy said?—A few minutes afterwards I asked him the dates and pointed out the discrepancy.

When did you first hear of the fall?—I cannot say what day, but it was before the enquiry commenced.

When Hung Pin Lu ran away, did you report it to Mr. Piercy that night?—No, because Mr. Piercy was at dinner. Boys have run away for less things than that and it was not necessary to tell Mr. Piercy. Hung Pin Lu's statement is inaccurate.

Do I understand you to say that masters are allowed to punish at their own discretion?—Yes.

Whenever he thinks it necessary? They do not have to report to the head master for his decision?—No.

Why could you not have reported his misconduct to Mr. Piercy, to have the punishment decided upon after due consideration?—It was not necessary to report it to Mr. Piercy.

Is it true that Leung Hing Wan was whipped by the headmaster because he was crying out in consequence of you caning him?—The boy shouted and got into a temper and used some Chinese expressions. Kong San was struck in the face and not on the side.

Haven't you a habit of prodding boys with your fingers?—If I do prod them it is with my open fingers or thumb.

What part of the body?—Only under the arms. If a boy gets that he usually smiles; they do not consider it a punishment.

Do they like the slapping? You say they like the prodding.—I do not say they like it. The slapping is a punishment.

By Mr. Deacon—The deceased was not bright; he was usually moody and sad. I would go so far as to say that he was morose, and probably he would be revengeful. He would certainly resent what I said. Assuming he was revengeful that would account for the statement he made at the hospital. I came straight out from St. Mathew's School, Bolton, England. I had been there about five years. After an interval of two years, when I was in St. Mark's College, Chelsea, I returned to the school for eighteen months. The Bolton school was a mixed school and there were about 450 pupils there. I have had considerable experience in school life. I am acquainted with the method of punishment. I certainly say that the Diocesan School is not in any way excessive in regard to the punishment. The food is good and sound; the boys seem to thrive on it. Some of the food they take is the same as that we take ourselves. The curriculum is quite satisfactory. The English Education Department recognises every certificated teacher as qualified to punish a boy at his own discretion.

This concluded the evidence.

His Worship, in addressing the jury, said they had to decide whether Tong Wing came by his death as the result of a fall or whether he received a blow on the head which caused the hemorrhage. If he came by his death as the result of a fall the verdict would be one of accidental death and if as the result of a blow the verdict would be one either of death from misadventure or manslaughter. His Worship then pointed out the law bearing on the case and said that with the exception of the statement made by the deceased there was absolutely no evidence whatever against Mr. Ralphs. Not one of the witnesses called had said that Mr. Ralphs struck Tong Wing or them on the head. Of course if the jury thought that Mr. Ralphs had inflicted the blow with the pointer then they must return a verdict of manslaughter against him, as the pointer was an unlawful and unauthorised weapon to use, the cane being the legal weapon in the school.

The jury after a minute's private consultation unanimously returned the following verdict:—"Accidental death, the result of a fall."

The Federated Native States and the colony of the Straits Settlements have jointly donated \$500 to the Pasteur Institute at Saigon, as a token of gratitude.

NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the second ordinary meeting to be held at the Company's offices, 38 & 40, Queen's Road Central, on the 5th of December, at Noon:—

To the shareholders of the New Balmoral Mining Co., Limited. Gentlemen.—We beg to lay before you the report and statement of accounts from the 1st July, 1895, to the 30th of September last, as handed to us by your late General Manager on that date.

The sum of \$16,398.62 has been expended on the mines, \$9,938.38 on the batteries, and \$28,920.13 on salaries, sawmill, and general expenses at the mines, or \$55,257.13 out of the total expenditure of \$68,387.70.

The gold won from crushing realized \$16,141.00. The Eureka Mine was sold on the 6th of January last to the Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, for the sum of \$25,000 in cash, and \$10,000 in 2,000 fully paid-up "A" shares in that Company.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. James H. Cox, who offers himself for re-election.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 23rd October, 1896.

BALANCE SHEET, 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1896.			
LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
To capital—50,000 shares of \$3 each	150,000.00		
To loan	18,000.00		
To accounts payable	13,738.91		
		\$181,738.91	
ASSETS.		\$	c.
By property:—			
Comprising the Balmoral, Queen, and Grant Mines; as per last account	\$20,997.42		
Less net proceeds Eureka Mine	\$31,132.38		
Less profit on 1,345 shares allotted on Tender	\$2,591.00	33,723.38	
			37,274.04
By plant at mines and live stock			9,518.08
By cash in hand	\$ 211.62		
By cash in Australia	6,313.94		
			6,525.56
By stores at mine			865.82
By 2,000 Olivers A shares			10,000.00
By 2,000 Olivers B shares			2,000.00
By balance still due on sale of Eureka Mine			2,001.15
By accounts receivable			368.47
By working account at debit, 30th June, 1895	\$76,162.22		
Less value of plant transferred.	12,746.29		
		\$63,415.93	
By balance, working account to 30th June, 1896, in Australia, and 30th September, 1896, head office	49,769.86		
			113,185.79
		\$181,738.91	

WORKING ACCOUNT.		
From 1st July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896, in Australia.		
From 1st July, 1895, to 30th September, 1896, at head office, Hongkong.		
Preliminary expenses	\$ 300.00	
Legal expenses	206.63	
Telegrams	1,100.97	
Head office, rent	400.00	
Head office, salary	1,200.00	
Advertising	70.54	
Charges, postages, and stationery at head office	1,842.83	
Interest	1,641.81	
Loss on sale of stores	55.29	
Eureka mine	100.00	
Queen mine	9,330.47	
Balmoral mine	1,822.25	
Grant mine	5,145.90	
Oliver's battery	7,070.80	
Balmoral battery	2,867.58	
General expenses	16,498.20	
Saw mill	806.03	
Australian management and salaries	11,615.85	
Directors and auditor's fees	6,312.50	
		\$68,387.70
Gold account	\$16,141.00	
Transfer fees	10.50	
Exchange	2,466.34	
Balance	49,769.86	
		\$68,387.70

REPORT ON THE QUEENS' AND GRANT MINES.

To the General Managers, the New Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited.

On receipt of your telegram of the 22nd instant, to know what amount of money would be required to make the Queens' mine pay, I commenced a full enquiry which has fully occupied me, one day excepting, till now, and I think I have now got to the bottom of the question and can write definitely upon the subject.

The exhaustive enquiry I have made has given me a much more favourable opinion of the mine than I had before, and I am satisfied that, worked in a proper manner on similar lines to the Eureka, it will prove very valuable after the preparatory work is finished.

To make a permanent mine of it which shall keep the battery going night and day, Sundays excepted, for years to come, I estimate the preparatory work will cost quite £2,000 spent on the mine clear of all money owing at the present time.

The engine boiler and house at the Queens must be moved and the poppet heads strengthened. In respect to the latter, they are so weak that if not supported by four steel wire rope stays they would blow down. The battery engine and boiler at the Balmoral was beautifully set up and housed by your late manager, but in the wrong place, so that half the boiler power was lost in pumping, in fact more than half, for they had frequently to stop the stamps, when they had only ten going, to pump water. I would recommend 10 of these stamps or more to be erected near the Queens', and the rest of the machinery at Balmoral to be erected as close as possible to its work, about 70 feet lower down the hill near the dam.

If your mines had been placed under the management of good practical up-to-date miners, your original capital was amply sufficient to have done all necessary preparatory work and thoroughly developed the mines, and gone on crushing night and day for 30 years or more, with every prospect of better results the deeper you got down.

I append minute of a conversation with the Government Inspector of Mines on 26th September.

Report by Mr. Oglethorpe, confirmed by Mr. Willmott.

Plan of the mine, showing old and new work and proposed preparatory work.

Plan of Queens' mine shaft (old shaft.)

Two plans, showing construction of chambers leading from shaft, showing opening sets and ground plan.

Photographs have gone on under a separate cover. Mr. T. Cash has found alluvial gold in the gully between your prospecting shaft and the Olivers.

I recommend the issue of preference shares for \$75,000, which should be ample to clear off all liabilities and conduct the mines to a successful issue.

JNO. D. HUMPHREYS.

27th September, 1896.

MINUTE OF A CONVERSATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR OF MINES ON 26TH SEPTEMBER, 1896.

This gentleman is of opinion that most of the money spent on the mines of the Balmoral Company, up to the time Mr. Willmott took charge, was wasted.

That if the money had been spent on preparatory work with a set purpose in view in opening up the reef at the Queens', deepening the shaft to a depth to meet the lower tunnels of the Grant Mine, and extending the lower tunnel of the Grant to the Queens' shaft, there would have been enough quartz in sight and overhead to keep the battery going night and day continuously while a fresh block was in course of preparation for working when the first was exhausted, so that crushing would have gone on continuously for years. The preparatory work would take a year, and after that the profit should have been sufficient to pay dividends and develop all the others without further capital. He thought the yield would be no less than 1 oz. to the ton, and on this system this would pay well as 3 dwts. ought to pay current expenses after preparatory outlay.

He spoke highly of the work put in by Mr. Willmott. Up-to-date in every respect, every

thing done in the best, most durable, and economical way, and on a plan by which the quartz could be raised after the preparatory work was finished at a minimum of cost.

I said, "Mr. Willmott's opinion is that the general belief that the Eureka and the Queens' Reef were one is wrong; that there are two distinct lines of reef, each running its own course."

He said, "I used to share the general opinion, and considered the Eureka an extension of the Queens' thrown to the East, but on hearing Mr. Willmott's reasons I felt sure he was right, and I have just made a careful inspection of the ground and would say without hesitation that there are three lines of reef running through the property, which has led to the conclusion that the Queens' when it pinched out had thrown eastward when payable reef was discovered further south to the east of the old line."

I said, "What makes you think there is a third line of reef?" He said, "About twelve years ago, when I came here, rich quartz was found on the surface in the Queens' paddock eastern end, just about underneath where your office stands, and specimens showing plenty of fine gold were shown me which had been picked up on the surface." I asked, "Had any work been done?" He said, "No; only a little scratching on the surface; there was plenty going on then and miners were attracted elsewhere and it was no doubt forgotten."

I said, "There is no doubt about the truth of good gold having been got all along the reefs?"

He said, "No doubt whatever some of the claims were very rich, and they all paid their way as they went on or would have been abandoned."

I then told him that it was proposed to sell the two properties to the Anglo-Australian Company, but as it was impossible to get any of the mines in a sufficiently advanced state for inspection, I felt confident that no sale would be effected. There was really nothing to inspect, nothing but the new shaft and the mullock at the Olivers', and nothing sufficiently advanced at the Queens' and Grant.

JNO. D. HUMPHREYS.

THE DAIRY FARM COMPANY, LIMITED.

The statutory meeting of the Dairy Farm Company, Limited, was held on Saturday, at noon, in the Company's depot, Wyndham Street. Dr. Noble presided and there were also present Captain Tillet, Messrs. G. Sharp, W. H. Potts, (Secretary), J. Walker (Manager), G. G. Cox, Lee Poon, and Wong Ping Ui.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—I think there is no business to transact at this meeting. It is merely a formal one held in accordance with the law on the subject of Companies, and we are gathered here for that purpose. I may state, now we are here, that I am very glad to inform you that ninety-nine per cent. of the ten thousand shares of the Company have already been applied for, and we hope that those shareholders in the old Company who have not already applied will do so at once before they are deprived of their opportunity. I also wish to state for your information, which we hope will be gratifying, that all our produce is at present being disposed of and meets with a ready sale. We have ordered an additional number of cows, which we hope will soon arrive, so that we shall have a larger supply than we have now. I think, taking all things into consideration, we can congratulate the new Company on the progress it has made. I thank you for your attendance. The meeting is adjourned *sine die*.

The *Albatross*, British cruiser, and the ship *Mistley Hall* were in collision at Yokohama on the 15th November, says the *Advertiser*, the sailing vessel swinging more slowly than the other ships in harbour and the sterns of the two touching in consequence. Boats from the men-of-war were manned and eight or ten of them soon towed the sailing ship clear. The damage, if any, must have been quite trifling.

THE PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following progress report on the work carried on at Punjom during the month of October from the mines:—

Mining.—All work coming under this head has had the usual attention and fair progress again made.

August Shaft 200 ft. Level.—The usual quantity of ore has been got from the stopes over this level on both the east and west and the north and south reefs, but the quality so far is rather low. This should certainly improve directly. The drive on the course of Gillies' reef has been discontinued and the men brought back to open on the ore-passed through in driving about two months ago, and which showed visible gold and large quantities of pyrites. The reef here looks fairly well, is about 10 inches wide, and is enclosed in good looking "formation" (black slate). I am pleased to tell you that in following up the course of a patch of ore seen near our new shaft we have come on to a reef, about 4 ft. wide, of highly mineralized ore, showing free gold and letting out water very freely. Its course is nearly N. and S. with a low easterly underlie and its position is to the west of anything seen hitherto at this level. We have not yet had time to fully open it, but shall do so during the coming month. It looks very encouraging, to say the least. Of course my regular weekly letters will keep you advised as we go on.

Intermediate Level.—The various points at work here continue to look fairly well and to maintain their output of ore for the mill. The quality has improved somewhat, as you will see from the better yield of gold for the month as compared with September. The drive we were driving west at date of my last report has reached the reef and men are now engaged driving and stoping on it. This drive has ventilated the stopes and given us greater facilities for working them.

110 feet Level.—The winze being sunk at date of my last report has connected with the stopes over the intermediate level. Of course, the object of this winze was ventilation and to allow of the stopes being filled with mullock at less cost. We have discontinued work in the south drive at this level, so as to allow of certain alterations being made preparatory to sinking the August shaft.

New Leader.—The many points at work here have given their usual quantity of ore for the mill, and from appearances should do so for some months longer.

Drivage.—Drivage for the month ... 440 feet
Ore mined ... 1,219 tons
made up as follows:—

August shaft ... 600 tons
New leader ... 619 tons

Milling.—This was carried on during 27½ days, crushing 1,200 tons, yielding of melted gold 621 ozs. 4 dwts.

Calcining Works.—This ran 27½ days, treating 45 tons, yielding of melted gold 80 ozs.

Cyanide Works.—This ran 20 days, treating 620 tons, yielding of melted bullion 307 ozs. 16 dwts., valued at per ounce £1 6s. 1d.

Gubau.—A house for the use of the overseer has been built and both blacksmith's and carpenter's shops are now being erected. A large piece of ground has been excavated here for the site of the new shaft to be sunk and I hope soon to see sinking commenced. The necessary pump and boiler, together with the required pipes, etc., have been ordered and men are now making a track to bring them on the ground.

General.—All work coming under this head has had our best attention. The water-wheel has been completed and we are now waiting the arrival of the belt pulleys for connecting the machinery. Water has been turned on to it, and I am pleased to say it seems to be all one could wish for. That this will effect a great saving there can be no doubt; in fact, it should save fully \$1,200 per month in firewood and oil alone.

Labour.—The supply of this is now much more plentiful.

Health.—This may be said to be fairly good.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall for the month is 11½ inches.

CRICKET.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB (A TEAM) v. OFFICERS OF THE GARRISON (A TEAM).

This match, which was practically one between the second elevens, was played on the Cricket Club ground on Saturday last. Fortunately the best of weather prevailed throughout the game. There had been rain during the two previous days, and it was expected that this would deaden the pitch, but although the balls hung a bit the wicket played true until the match was over.

The Club captain, having won the toss, elected to bat first. Crawford and Mackenzie were sent in to open the innings to the bowling of Lieut. Ryall, W.Y.R., and Davies, R.A. Four wickets were down for 39. Grimble and Rawson, however, put on 41 runs for the next wicket. Mounsey (18) and Atkinson (30) were the other two who obtained double figures. The innings, which had lasted for an hour and a half, closed at a quarter to one, for 125 runs. Davies was the most successful bowler, taking four wickets for 26 runs.

Lieut. Gordon and Capt. Langhorne, R.A., started the batting for the Garrison, while the bowling was entrusted to Mackenzie and Lammert. With the score at 5 Gordon was dismissed, at 17 Logan was caught off Lammert's bowling, while Langhorne was out l.b.w. to Mackenzie. Lieuts. Davies and Isaacs now became associated and succeeded in greatly improving matters. After several changes in the bowling Lieut. Rawson, R.N., was put on and with his first ball bowled Isaacs. The score by this time had reached 84 runs. Lieut. Davies was caught at the second attempt by Grimble off Crawford's bowling, this player having made 46 runs in spirited fashion. Lieut. Thompson, R.E., was unfortunately run out at 103, but with Lieut. Buzzard and Captain Loveband together it seemed as if the last wicket might win the match; however, at 115 Buzzard was luckily caught by square leg off Crawford's bowling, the Club winning by the narrow margin of nine runs on the first innings. Had it not been for the many mistakes in the fielding this result might have been reversed. Lieut. Rawson bowled remarkably well, his analysis being 5 overs, 1 maiden, 18 runs, and 4 wickets, his first three wickets being obtained without a run.

To fill up the time the Club went in again and in their second innings made 202 for nine wickets, Rawson, Grimble, and Mounsey being the chief contributors.

The following is the score and analysis:—

THE CLUB.		THE GARRISON.	
1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
L. S. Crawford, b P. G. Davies	8	b Davies	0
A. Mackenzie, c Ryall, b P. G. Davies	6	b Logan	125
F. H. Kew, b Ryall	4	c Crowley, b Gordon	18
K. W. Mounsey, c Buzzard, b P. G. Davies	18	b Langhorne	64
H. S. Rawson, R.N., c Crowley, b Gordon	29	c Isaacs, b Buzzard	36
G. Grimble, c and b Langhorne	20	run out	31
G. M. T. Thomson, b Langhorne	0	st. Loveband, b Buzzard	6
R. F. Lammert, c Gordon, b Ryall	3	did not bat	
J. M. Atkinson, not out	30	not out	4
J. S. Ezekiel, b Ryall	2	b Langhorne	0
J. Hooper, b P. G. Davies	3	b Ryall	8
Extras	1	Extras	15
	124		202

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

First Innings.				
Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	
Ryall	11	2	41	8
Davies	12	4	24	4
Anderson	8	—	21	—
Langhorne	6	1	15	2
Gordon	5	—	22	1
Second Innings.				
Gordon	12	1	41	1
Davies	11	3	39	2
Ryall	10	1	40	1
Langhorne	7	1	24	2
Anderson	5	2	10	—
Logan	6	—	17	1
Buzzard	3.2	—	16	2

GARRISON.	
Lieut. Gordon, W.Y.R., b Lammert	3
Capt. Langhorne, R.A., lb.w., b Mackenzie	6
Lieut. Logan, W.Y.R., c Atkinson, b Lammert	7
Lieut. Isaacs, W.Y.R., b Rawson	19
Lt. P. G. Davies, R.A., c Grimble, b Crawford	46
Lieut. Anderson, H.K.R., b Rawson	0
Lieut. Ryall, W.Y.R., c Mackenzie, b Rawson	0
Lieut. Crowley, W.Y.R., b Atkinson, b Rawson	6
Lieut. Thomson, R.E., run out	1
Lt. C. N. Buzzard, R.A., c Atkinson, b Rawson	6
Captain Loveband, not out	10
Extras	11

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Mackenzie	7	1	35	1
Lammert	6	1	19	2
Grimble	3	1	17	—
Crawford	7.1	2	15	2
Rawson	8	1	18	4

WEST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT V. OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL NAVY.

The West Yorkshire Regiment played their first match in Hongkong on the 24th November their opponents being the officers of the Royal Navy. During the afternoon the Regimental Band played some beautiful selections of music.

WEST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT.		Second Innings.	
First Innings.			
Colonel Gordon, c Bonham		c sub., b Skelton	12
Carter, b Shipway	26		
Lieut. Gordon, b Sheldford	4		
Lieut. Wood, c Skelton, b Carter	39		
Lieut. Howard, c Sheldford, b Carter	8	not out	31
Lieut. Logan, b Sheldford	6		
Lieut. Isaacs, c Pead, b Sheldford	4		
Lance-Corpl. Gomersall, run out	0		
Capt. Carey, b Sheldford	0	not out	15
Corpl. Beasley, c Bennetts, b Carter	2		
Lieut. Ryall, b Carter	0		
Lieut. Crowley, not out	0	c Arbuthnot, b Skelton	4
Extras	8	Extras	1
	97		63

ROYAL NAVY.	
Dr. Pead, c Gordon, b Howard	12
R. W. Skelton, c Col. Gordon, b Howard	15
Lieut. Bonham Carter, c Gomersall, b Ryall	86
Lieut. Arbuthnot, c Ryall, b Wood	3
Commander Wade, c Col. Gordon, b Ryall	1
Capt. Mercer, run out	11
Lieut. Sheldford, b Howard	12
J. A. Key, c Howard, b Ryall	6
H. S. Shipway, not out	0
S. Bennetts, b Ryall	5
	131

SWATOW V. H.M.S. "SWIFT."

A match between the above was played at Restalrig grounds, Swatow, on the 21st November. The following is the score:—

SWATOW.		Second Innings.	
First Innings.			
C. L. Cutmeary, run out	0	c Gaunt, b Elliot	23
J. W. Innocent, b Ing	10	run out	0
T. M. O'Sullivan, b Elliot	0	run out	0
W. W. G. Ross, b Elliot	14	lb.w.	24
J. A. Tapp, c Forgety, b Elliot	22	c Gaunt, b Mallinson	17
J. A. Harvey, b Elliot	0	c and b Mallinson	2
B. L. Simpson, c Ing, b Elliot	2	not out	3
W. Dowson, b Mallinson	1	b Elliot	3
G. G. Sinclair, c Ing, b Elliot	3	not out	4
C. P. Dawson, b Elliot	4	did not bat	
J. Steele, not out	0	b Mallinson	0
Byes	6	Byes	3
	62		79

H.M.S. "SWIFT."

Waterman, c Ross, b Tipp	6
Lieut. Wrey, c Harvey, b Tipp	10
Chapman, c Dowson, b Tipp	0
H. M. C. Elliot, b Ross	0
Lieut. Gaunt, b Tipp	0
Commander Youel, b Tipp	5
Lieut. Mallinson, b Ross	1
Dr. Menary, b Tipp	0
Ing, b Tipp	0
Forgety, b Ross	1
Mitchell, not out	1
Byes	5
	29

A branch of the Banque de l'Indo-Chine is to be established at Bangkok.

THE MOUNT RICHMOND LAWN TENNIS HANDICAP.

During the last six weeks an interesting tennis handicap has been in progress on Mr. J. D. Humphreys's courts at Mount Richmond. The entrance fee was \$2, \$25 of the total to be devoted to the purchase of a silver cup for the winner and the balance to the purchase of a tennis racquet for the "runner up." The handicap was made by every player handicapping all the other competitors and the mean of all the handicaps taken as the official handicap. The competition has been productive of some good games, that between Jupp and Potts being perhaps the best from a spectator's point of view. The first game was postponed owing to the players playing till dark with no result. It will be observed that the limit men except when fighting one another have in every instance "come out of the bag" in spite of the tall odds given, clearly showing that ordinary odds are no use against superior class.

FIRST TIES.

Byes.—W. G. Humphreys, receives $\frac{1}{15}$; A. Donald, scratch; E. B. Humphreys, owes $\frac{1}{15}$; H. Humphreys, owes $\frac{1}{15}$; J. A. Jupp, owes $\frac{1}{15}$; G. H. Potts, owes $\frac{1}{15}$; D. Wood, receives $\frac{1}{15}$; J. R. Capell, scratch.

H. Crombie, scratch, beat R. H. Potts, scratch—6-3, 6-2.

F. Collins, owes $\frac{1}{15}$, beat R. Mitchell, owes $\frac{1}{15}$ —6-4, 6-2.

A. Chapman, receives $\frac{1}{15}$, beat J. Wheeley, receives $\frac{1}{15}$ —6-4, 6-3.

C. Ford, scratch, beat F. D. Maclean, receives $\frac{1}{15}$ —6-3, 6-2.

W. M. Humphreys, receives $\frac{1}{15}$, beat J. Rankin, receives $\frac{1}{15}$ —6-0, 7-5.

C. H. Gale, owes $\frac{1}{15}$, beat W. D. Jupp, receives $\frac{1}{15}$ —6-1, 6-2.

A. H. Mancell, owes $\frac{1}{15}$, beat H. E. Allen, receives $\frac{1}{15}$ —6-0, 6-1.

A. H. Skelton, owes $\frac{1}{15}$, beat G. P. Lammert, owes $\frac{1}{15}$ —9-7, 6-4.

SECOND TIES.

A. Donald beat W. G. Humphreys.—6-4, 6-2.

H. Humphreys beat R. E. Humphreys.—4-6, 6-4, 6-1.

F. Collins beat H. Crombie.—2-6, 6-2, 6-1.

C. Ford and A. Chapman.—Chapman scratched.

W. M. Humphreys and C. H. Gale.—Gale scratched.

A. H. Skelton beat A. H. Mancell.—6-4, 6-3.

J. A. Jupp beat G. H. Potts.—6-0, 9-7.

D. Wood beat J. R. Capell.—6-2, 3-6, 6-2.

THIRD TIES.

H. Humphreys beat A. Donald.—6-2, 6-4.

F. Collins beat C. Ford.—6-2, 6-4.

A. H. Skelton beat W. M. Humphreys.—6-4, 6-3.

J. A. Jupp beat D. Wood.—6-2, 6-1.

FOURTH TIES.

H. Humphreys beat F. Collins.—3-6, 6-0, 6-2.

A. H. Skelton beat J. A. Jupp.—11-9, 6-3.

The final in the Mount Richmond Lawn Tennis Handicap was played on Saturday afternoon, when H. Humphreys and A. H. Skelton met. In the handicap Humphreys owed $\frac{1}{15}$ and Skelton $\frac{1}{15}$, the difference being equivalent to $\frac{1}{15}$. The match was an interesting and exciting one, the players being well matched and the result in doubt up to the last stroke. The first sett fell to Humphreys, 6-2. In the next sett Skelton equalised, the score being 6-3. In the third sett Humphreys led for some time and looked like adding another to his score, but he was unfortunately seized with cramp in the legs, and Skelton, who was as fresh as at the beginning, won game after game until five all was called. The succeeding games were warmly contested, but finally Skelton won the sett by 9-7. In the fourth sett Humphreys, who had got over his cramp, played up gamely and seemed to have a good chance of making the score two setts all, but Skelton's superior staying power stood him in good stead, and the sett finally fell to Skelton with a score of 8-6. The last game of the sett, like many of the other games of the match, was called deuce several times and the excitement was at a high pitch when Skelton made the winning stroke. The match lasted exactly two hours.

At the close the healths of the winner and of the runner up were duly honoured. The first prize was a handsome silver cup and the second prize a tennis racquet.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE REFORM MOVEMENT IN CHINA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—In order to remove a false impression created by the recent arrest and detention of Dr. Sun Yat Sin by the Chinese Legation in London, allow me to inform you that the leader of the reformers is Yeong Ku wan, a progressive man of sterling worth and unblemished reputation, a thorough patriot and reformer. He is styled Lord Protector of the Commonwealth. Dr. Sun Yat Sin is only one of the chief organizers of the reform movement, and we have to thank the British Government for encompassing his release. Time will prove that the British Government acted wisely. The reformers do not forget a good turn. The movement is extensive and has adherents and sympathizers throughout the world. We desire to see the emancipation of the great Chinese race from the bigoted and selfish Manchu yoke. The people want progress and reform, and this we will strive to accomplish at any cost. The world moves with the current of progress, and all "rubbish" must be swept out of the path—the path of civilization and peaceful accord of the great nations of the world. The time is coming when modern inventions will make the criminal slaughter of mankind almost an impossibility; and, after we have accomplished our task, we hope to assist the great nations in arranging a supreme tribunal for the just and peaceful government of the world. It is madness to war for the supremacy of the world, as it is not the destiny of any one nation to rule it. London papers please note.—Yours truly,

A REFORMER.

P.S.—At present excuse the absence of name and address.

Hongkong, 27th November, 1896.

SCOTCH, AS SHE IS WROTE!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Would it not be advisable for the polyglot unofficial members of Council to ask an Englishman to revise their protests and other documents addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies? He is, I believe, an Englishman "made in Birmingham," and he probably smiles at the confusion between the "wills," and the "shalls," the "woulds" and the "shoulds," appearing in some of the communications he receives from Hongkong, where the authorised version of the British tongue is supposed to be.

ENGLISH.

Hongkong, 27th November, 1896.

THE CARE OF THE BLIND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—I think it is high time that the Government should try to ameliorate the condition of the numerous Chinese blind singing girls who are to be seen in the streets at night after night trying to earn perhaps a few cents. We have in our midst the convents for the poor and the Po Lung Kuk for the helpless, but nothing apparently is done for the unfortunates who are blind. Surely, if the public were approached in the proper way there would be no difficulty in establishing a Home for the Blind where these girls could be housed and fed and kept at some useful work.—Yours faithfully,

SYMPATHISER.

Hongkong, 27th November, 1896.

A DISCLAIMER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—In the recent arsenic-throwing case it has been several times stated in the Supreme Court and also in the newspapers that Pang On, the prosecutor, was an excise officer.

Will you allow me through the medium of your valuable paper to contradict that statement in toto. Pang-On never held a warrant from the Government as an excise officer, nor did he ever act as such.—Yours, &c.,

J. J. SPOONER,
Chief Excise Officer.
Opium Farm, Hongkong, 27th November, 1896.

THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Another latest addition to the fleet of the above Company of the name of *Sui Wo*. Additions after additions of the latest style and most approved pattern have been of late made to the fleet of the above Company, but it is to be regretted, from a shareholder's point of view, that the market quotation is far from satisfactory. I should say absolutely discouraging, for after having written off £345,492 1s. 11d. as shown below—

Year	Depreciation Account.	£	s.	d.
1882	12,000	—	—	—
1883	13,370	—	—	—
1884	19,923	1	11	—
1885	21,873	—	—	—
1886	24,281	—	—	—
1887	25,363	—	—	—
1888	33,456	—	—	—
1889	25,489	—	—	—
1890	23,817	—	—	—
1891	25,772	—	—	—
1892	20,000	—	—	—
1893	20,000	—	—	—
1894	35,831	—	—	—
1895	44,317	—	—	—

having built up an underwriting account of of £84,295 16s. 2d., and having carried forward to new account £6,066 13s. 7d. the shares of the Company, which are fully paid-up £10, are now quoted merely \$41, i.e., they are quoted lower than £5, in fact they have experienced a drop of about \$21 in the interval of the last five months, after an excellent report having been presented on the 28th May, 1896. This sharp and heavy decline is rather inexplicable, in face of the statement made by the chairman at the meeting held in London on Thursday, 28th May, 1896:—"Freights have not opened very well this year. The effect of the war is beginning to be felt more now than when hostilities were in progress, especially in the Northern provinces. However, the trade our vessels have been doing has been fairly good." I lay particular stress on the words "The trade our vessels have been doing is fairly good." The explanation of the smart downward process is difficult to conceive. Is it ascribable to the eccentricities of the market, or to overladen shareholders, or to other considerations which not infrequently overshadow intrinsic value, which the above figures conclusively prove to be not anything under £7 or £8, making due allowance for the dulness of the freight market?

There is one point which I strongly protest against as a shareholder, especially as the majority of the shares are held in the Far East, which is the registration of the Company in London, which without serving any useful purpose takes away from the pockets of the Eastern shareholders 8d. in the pound as income-tax, in these days of subsidies, bounties, of the decline of Cobdenism, and when the foreign powers are in the full flood tide of protectionist reaction. Also as the distributions are declared in sterling the Eastern shareholders are unnecessarily subjected to the tender mercies of Bryan and McKinley variety.

A SHAREHOLDER

Hongkong, 28th November 1896.

At Shanghai on the night of the 18th November twenty-six prisoners—sixteen women and ten men—made their escape from the Japanese Consular gaol. The prisoners had arrived by the steamer *Sakio Maru* without passports, and were also unable to furnish certain information which is required by Japanese law and the absence of which was considered sufficient reason for their detention by the Consular officials. Up to latest advices none of them had been captured.

THE TAXATION OF SILK FILATURES AND COTTON MANUFACTURES.

The following despatch from the Tsungli Yamen to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body with reference to the proposed taxation of silk filatures and cotton manufactures is published with the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce:—

THE TSUNGLI YAMEN TO MR. DENBY.
September 16th, 1896.

Your Excellency—On the 4th September instant, the Prince and Ministers had the honour to receive a communication from the Minister of the United States, stating that he had received a protest from the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce against the proposal contained in the Yamen's memorial to the Throne to tax cotton manufactures and silk filatures ten per cent. The Minister of the United States requested the Yamen to postpone all action on the matter until a meeting of the Foreign Representatives can be had. This would be early in October next; that a delay in the consideration of this matter will do no harm; that the tax would not be made applicable to this season's business; that the filature merchants bought their cocoons in May and June at prices which obviously would never have been paid had such a tax been apprehended; and that it would be the height of injustice to impose the tax, etc.

The Princes and Ministers have the honour to state that the Yamen, some time ago, memorialised the Throne in regard to imposing a tax on the manufactures named and received His Majesty's sanction to the proposal made. The time, however, has not as yet been fixed when the new tax is to be enforced. To the officials who receive instructions to act in this matter, it may be stated that they must first consider the circumstances before putting the tax in force. The object is, by this plan, that due consideration shall be shown to all merchants concerned and that no one in particular shall suffer injury thereby.

As to the remark that "the filature merchants bought their cocoons in May and June last at prices which obviously would never have been paid had such tax been apprehended," it is a fact perfectly true. From this, the Princes and Ministers can well perceive that the Minister of the United States had fixed his attention on looking after the interests at stake and entertains the same view held by the Yamen to arrange matters affecting commercial interests, so that Chinese and foreign merchants may be treated on an equal footing, for which they feel the greatest of respect.

In accordance with the request of the Minister of the United States the Yamen have instructed the office in charge of collecting the duty on cocoons to defer for the present taking any action in the premises.

HANGCHOW AND SOOCHOW.

Shanghai, 27th November.

The British Government has not asked or arranged for British Concessions at either Hangchow or Soochow. The Chinese authorities have marked off Japanese Concessions, and pieces of ground for foreigners generally on which lots may be bought. Two British Consular officials, Messrs. Fulford and Sundius, are to be attached to this Consulate-General to watch the trade at Hangchow and Soochow. The former promises to develop into a commercial centre; the latter is commercially only a suburb of Shanghai, and is not likely to attract foreign merchants.—*N. C. Daily News*.

FOREIGN PATENTS IN JAPAN.

The new German Treaty with the Consular Convention and Protocol was published in the Japanese *Official Gazette* on the 20th November.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce has issued an order requiring any one, living abroad and applying for the registration of his patent design or trade mark, to be represented by one resident in Japan, and to produce a power of attorney. Foreigners making such applications are required to an-

nex to their applications, the certificates of their nationalities. The order also requires that every such application should be written in Japanese, or have a Japanese translation annexed if not written in Japanese.

Tokyo, 21st November.

Since the promulgation of the new German treaty, 28 applications have been filed in the Patent Bureau by German subjects for the registration of trade marks. The number of applications from British subjects and Americans exceed 200, but the British and American applications have been returned, as the Bureau have no authority yet to deal with them.

LIKIN AND THE INCREASE IN THE CUSTOMS TARIFF.

"Outport" writes to the *N. C. Daily News*—

In view of the recent interesting remarks in your paper upon the question of raising the Customs duty I venture to point out a few facts which I think should not be lost sight of before any final settlement is agreed upon.

I see it said that Sir Robert Hart favours the abolition of likin and so adds to the weight of opinion that this is the first concession that should be yielded by the Chinese in return for permission to raise the export and import duties.

But I am curious to know how, under the system now adopted of establishing a branch of the Imperial Maritime Customs at every newly opened port, so-called, in the interior of China, native trade is to go on without the aid of the much-abused likin?

Your readers in Shanghai probably hardly appreciate the fact that all goods passing from one "treaty" port on the Yangtze to another have to pay full export and an additional half-duty.

There are now seven Maritime Customs houses established on the Yangtze River alone, above Shanghai, Wuhu, and Chinking, not 100 miles apart; while, if Nanking and other stations now open under the "Yangtze Regulations" are, as they soon must be, formally opened, we shall have new Customs houses all along the river within 50 miles of each other.

So far, the bulk of the interport trade on the river is carried on by junks paying likin, which, for short distances, is often not one-tenth of the foreign Customs tariff, and so, although shipments between adjacent river ports by steam are rendered practically impossible, yet with native junks, not foreign-chartered, trade can still be carried on.

But if likin is abolished and all shipping has to go through the Imperial Customs houses, there will be an embargo placed upon local trade, which will be practically prohibited. The only alternative is to let the junk traffic go entirely free. This, of course, will reduce steamers into carrying nothing beyond goods destined for export to or imported from foreign countries.

If we had wished ill to the Chinese and had been determined to aid them in collecting revenue from trade in the most onerous way possible, our Ministers would not have carried out their assumed object more successfully than they have done by encouraging the establishment of even more branches of the so-called "Maritime" Customs.

As its name implies, the Imperial Maritime Customs was originally intended to collect duties alone upon goods passing the seaboard into foreign lands. It would have sufficed to have set up the "new barrier" (*Shinkuan*) to trade at ports frequented by vessels clearing from abroad.

If the present duties are doubled, then produce going from one prefecture to another will soon be saddled with a tax of fifteen per cent duty and half duty, a parallel to the interstate *octrois* of mediaeval Italy.

Consequently I venture to maintain that if likin is to be given up, then the internal extension of foreign Customs houses should be given up too, and China be encouraged, under foreign auspices, to enjoy that freedom of internal trade that has been one of the main factors in the exuberant prosperity of the United States of America, notwithstanding their antiquated external protective system.

We should then be rid farther of one iniquity that flourishes under the present

Foreign Customs management. I allude to the coast trade duty or half duty, so-called, which is now collected on all goods passed through the internal Foreign Custom-houses.

This duty adds fifty per cent to the tariff duty on cargo destined for export abroad, but is returnable upon the production of certificates of re-exportation. The formalities placed in the way of obtaining these certificates and then finally cashing them have been made so complicated as to play into the hands of the native superintendents of trade and the Customs bankers and so enable them to retain large sums of which the merchants have been practically defrauded. At the port from which I write I doubt if one-fifth of these half duties are ever refunded and, if they are, it is after long delays and after successfully evading an exasperating network of checks and counter-checks.

These half duties are absurdly alleged to be a precaution lest any goods shipped from the interior for wealthy foreign countries should inadvertently be re-admitted for consumption by the starving millions of China. They do no good to the Imperial or Provincial revenues proper but afford a dearly prized opportunity for stealing by individual officials. They are a nuisance to the merchant, native and foreign, as well as to the members of the Customs staff themselves. They are an anachronism and should be forthwith abolished.

In conclusion, my object is to urge Chambers of Commerce and the Ministers of all nations trading with China to free its internal trade in reality and not in name only, which will be the sole result of the abolition of likin, if at the same time the internal foreign Custom-houses are not likewise displaced.

Let the maritime trade bear the increased burdens unfortunately necessitated by wars and rumours of war here as elsewhere, but do not foist the parasitical growth of new Custom-houses upon the provinces with one hand, while with the other we sweep away the far more moderate inter-state likin. Confine export and import duties henceforth to goods shipped directly to and from abroad and thus stimulate the development of internal free-trade all we can.

In a second letter the same correspondent says—

In your valued Market Report of the 3rd of October (Messrs. Alex. Biefield and Co.) appear statements which I cannot pass unchallenged. The words are:—

"Should the endeavour of the Chamber of Commerce to get the likin or inland tax removed in exchange for a fair increase in specific duties succeed, an almost incredible expansion of trade with this country must take place. At present likin, in the extortioning hand of native officials, often doubles the cost of goods before they reach their destination in the interior. If this is abolished in exchange for a 10 per cent duty, the consumption of foreign goods in the interior will increase at once and will grow steadily as time goes on."

Such loose statements unverified by actual figures are much to be deprecated. Writers on the spot should generalise with a great sense of responsibility, seeing that their statements form the basis of the articles in the home papers and magazines, articles which go to form public opinion and hence influence statesmen by whom changes materially affecting our position in the East are accomplished.

I should like to point out that while I do not know what occurred in this respect in your province, certainly here, in Szechuen, there has been a steady diminution in likin during the years of my stay here. Chinese traders are so ingenious in foiling the best-laid plans of the native tax offices that the officials dare not proceed to extremities. The likin is ordinarily levied at so many cash per package; hence the Chinese traders lower the rate by increasing the size of the packages; another device is to adopt a fresh route, an easy expedient in this land of unlimited waterways and footpaths (all equally bad), until the officials get tired of constantly setting up new likin stations which another astute change of route soon renders unprofitable. These devices, coupled with the occasional enforcement of transit passes, have now reduced the likin in this province from an average of five per cent in 1889 to an average of two and a half per cent in 1896.

As to likin doubling the cost—I have shown that here the likin is about one-fortieth of the cost and never exceeded one-twentieth of the cost. I doubt if likin at any time or in any part of the eighteen provinces ever approached such a charge as asserted, and which only a McKinley could impose on the patient backs of American consumers.

As to the probability of an incredible expansion of trade if likin is exchanged for a 10 per cent import duty.—If my figures are approximately correct, the proposed change can only lead to a diminution of the import trade. For myself, my experience of the interior leads me to assert that no fiscal change, short of a total abolition of all taxation, maritime as well as inland, will lead to any marked expansion of trade and then only to a limited degree. Foreign goods now penetrate to every corner of the empire with comparative freedom and are sought for and liked by all classes of the people. The only real hindrances to their consumption are the execrable roads and the poverty of the people. Both of these are removable could China be taken in hand as Egypt has been and the expansion of trade would be phenomenal.

MACAO.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

26th November.

The gradual decay of this port is no doubt in some measure due to the monopolist policy adopted by the Government, for monopoly paralyzes trade and brings hardship on the population, who have in consequence of it to pay high prices for inferior articles. Pork, beef, fish, salt, liupun (wine), kerosine, etc., are all the subjects of monopolies. The monopolists, knowing that the public is bound to purchase from them, make the most of their opportunities to squeeze to the utmost; and while the monopolists thus make large profits it is almost impossible to find articles of first rate quality in the market. Persons in easy circumstances get over this by sending to Hongkong for their supplies, especially beef, but the poor have not the same opportunities of obtaining relief by that means. As to the kerosine monopoly, it has quite killed the trade in that article that used to be done through this port with China, and in which many merchants were interested. Perhaps the most mismanaged of the monopolies is that of the ricksha business, created by the Leal Senado. There are, say, three hundred rickshas and each ricksha pays daily to the monopolist 15 cents, so that during the year his receipts will be \$16,200, while on the other hand he pays to the Leal Senado \$9,602 only. The Leal Senado, if it issued licences direct, might obtain for itself the difference between these two sums, which is greatly needed, but instead of that it allows it to go into the pocket of one individual. Under a monopolist, also, the drawers have a very hard time of it.

The Government and the Leal Senado, if they really wish to promote the prosperity of the place, should sweep away all monopolies (except the gambling and opium monopolies), and instead of placing everything in the hands of half-a-dozen men encourage free competition, issue licences direct, and allow every one to follow his own trade without let or hindrance. By this means the public will get better articles at smaller cost, and the amount now wasted in the employment of officers to prevent private sales and smuggling would be saved.

The following are the amounts paid annually for some of the principal monopolies.—Pork \$23,750; fish \$12,000; salt \$43,100; liupun \$8,300; kerosine \$8,100; gunpowder, saltpetre, and sulphur \$8,000; vae-sang \$60,000; pak-kopiu \$51,000; fantan \$150,000; and opium \$130,000. These are Government monopolies, the Leal Senado receiving 2 per cent on the amounts paid by the farmers at the same at the same time that they pay the rents of their farms to the Government. In addition there are the beef monopoly \$4,092 and the ricksha monopoly \$9,602, which belong to the Leal Senado altogether.

Owing to the institution of these monopolies the business of many Chinese has fallen off, some are leaving; the number of vacant houses is in consequence increasing; rents are falling, and property owners are feeling the pinch.

To-day the kerosine and gunpowder monopolies were put up to auction and both were secured by Lee Kiang-chui of the Fa-kwai firm. First the written tenders were opened, when it was found that the highest offer for the kerosine monopoly was \$9,100. H.E. the Governor was present and he ordered the monopoly to be put up to auction, and \$14,100 was secured. For the gunpowder monopoly the highest written tender was \$10,100, but the amount realised at the auction was \$15,000. The new term commences on the 1st January, 1897, and runs to the 30th June, 1899. The gunpowder monopoly, it will be seen, realised \$7,000 more than on the last occasion.

The transport *Africa* leaves to-morrow for India, Mozambique, and Portugal. She takes back to Lisbon a number of time-expired soldiers, and for Mozambique about twenty Chinese carpenters and masons. She is well laden with Chinese goods, so much so that many packages have been refused for want of room. I hear that she will call at Saigon to take in 10,000 piculs of rice.

HONGKONG.

The weather has been most unseasonable lately, much rain having fallen during the past few days. On Thursday the inquest on the Diocesan School boy was concluded, the jury returning a verdict of accidental death. St. Andrew's Day was celebrated on Monday by a ball and this annual gathering of the clans was a great success, the inclement weather notwithstanding.

We have to acknowledge receipt of the *Customs Gazette* for the quarter ended September last.

H.M.S. *Centurion*, with Admiral Sir A. Buller on board, left on the 27th November for Singapore and H.M.S. *Pique* for Manila.

In the match between the Hongkong Football Club and the Colts on the 25th November the Club were victorious by two goals to one.

The Treasurer of the Seamen's Church and Mission Fund acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a donation of \$50 from the Rifle Brigade "Fra Diavolo" Company.

At a regular meeting of the Victoria Lodge on the 23rd instant, Bro. G. P. Lammert was elected Worship Master for the ensuing year and Bro. W. Whitley, Treasurer.

On the 29th November a bricklayer named Kat Cheung was working on a plank in Staunton Street when the plank broke and the man fell to the pavement and was instantly killed.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the hospitals:—Rifle Brigade, "Fra Diavolo" Company, \$150.

The "Star" ferry service to Kowloon has been augmented and from the 1st December the launches will run every ten minutes during the day time, from 6.45 p.m. to 8 p.m. every fifteen minutes, and from 8 p.m. to midnight every half-hour.

The prospectus is advertised of the Eastern Mica Manipulating Works, Limited, formed for the purpose of taking over the business now conducted by Mr. C. Holdsworth. The services of Mr. Holdsworth have been secured for a term of five years.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that in consequence of representations made by the Government of China and for other reasons the export of arms and military and naval stores from Hongkong is prohibited for a period of six months, except under special permit.

Mr. Menpes, the well-known artist, who has been spending the summer in Japan, is a passenger homeward by the P. & O. steamer *Ravenna*, leaving to-day. Mr. Menpes takes with him a large collection of paintings, which we believe he will exhibit on his arrival in London.

The following crews have entered for the International race at the forthcoming Regatta:—*English*—H. Kennett, G. C. Hayward, G. H. Potts, S. Robinson (stroke), F. W. White (cox).—*Scotch*—G. Fullerton, W. A. Stopani, G. Morrison, W. Armstrong (stroke), G. A. Caldwell (cox).—*German*—E. Fullerton, F. Lammert, E. Bischoff, R. F. Lammert (stroke), L. A. Rose (cox).

The New Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited, proposes to write down its present capital by \$100,000 and to issue preference shares to the amount of \$75,000.

We understand it has been decided to take the census in Hongkong on the 20th January next on the same lines as the last census was taken. We trust the Government will not indulge in a large expenditure in taking this year's census. Although statistics of a varied nature may be valuable to the statistician the total population is what we principally want in this colony.

The Right Revd. L. M. Piazzoli begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations from the Home of the Aged and Infirm:—

M. B. Polishwalla	...	...	...	\$ 25
Ho Tung	...	...	...	50
E. W. Mitchell	...	...	...	10
N. Mody & Co.	...	...	...	10
H. M. S. Esmail	...	...	...	10
"Fra Diavolo" Concert, through Mr. A. Coxon	...	...	...	50

Two privates in the West Yorkshire Regiment got into trouble on Monday night. They quarrelled in Queen's Road Central and one of them, whose name is Wallace, rushed into Tak Cheong's shop and was followed by the other, whose name is Kelly. There was a scrimmage and Kelly picked up an inkpot and flung it at Wallace, but it missed and crashed through a show case. Both men were shortly afterwards arrested. Kelly was fined \$5 and ordered to pay \$10 compensation, and Wallace was fined \$2.50.

H.E. the Governor in his speech at the annual prize distribution at Queen's College last February offered two prizes of \$50 and \$25 respectively to the two Chinese boys of that institution who should write the best and second best essays on the "Progress of the British Empire during the last fifty years." Seven boys competed, the judges being the Governing Body. His Excellency, at a private interview at Government House, presented Li Ut and Lin Cheung, the successful candidates, with the cheques for the amounts on Saturday morning.

Her Majesty's Government having signified to the Government of France that they will have great pleasure in officially participating in the 1890 Exhibition, "which they believe will tend to draw still closer the relations of friendship which exist between Great Britain and France," Mr. Chamberlain has addressed a circular despatch to the Governors of Colonies, including Hongkong, in which he says:—Should you think it probable that the colony under your Government will desire to be represented at the Exhibition, I shall be obliged if you will give me any information in your power at an early date by telegraph, as to the probable requirements of the colony in regard to space in order that such information may be communicated to Mr. Lee.

We would like to call the attention of the Police to the recent resurrection of what we believe is a very old method of swindling. A Hongkong lady went to the Post Office two days ago and presented a Chinese twenty-cent piece for two stamps. The clerk of course refused to take the coin and the lady was about to turn into the street when a well dressed and well spoken Chinaman went up to her and very kindly offered a Hongkong twenty-cent piece for the rejected coin, and the offer was accepted with many thanks. The required stamps were duly purchased and the lady was again about to step into the street when another respectable looking Chinaman went up to her and told her that the twenty-cent piece which she had just passed at the stamp office was made of brass. The man produced a coin and demanded a good one in exchange. Happily the lady had the good sense to indignantly refuse to recognise the claim and said that the coin produced was not the same she had passed at the stamp window. The man then slunk away. Of course the public will readily see through this impudent attempt to swindle, and it is a pity that both men were not caught. We hope the police will take measures to prevent this kind of thing happening in the future. Doubtless many residents have been victimised by those two rogues, and no effort should be spared to deprive them of their liberty.

There were 2,607 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 183 were Europeans.

We hear that there was a dispute on the 24th November between the Hongkong police and the captain of the French mail steamer *Melbourne*. The police and a number of excise officers wished to search the vessel for some opium which was supposed to be smuggled there and the old question arose as to the man-of-war status of the mail steamer. Eventually, however, the search was allowed, but no opium was found on board.

The Hongkong Volunteer Corps is steadily increasing in popularity. On Friday night the first route march of the drill season took place and upwards of ninety members mustered at headquarters, this being one the largest musters since the Corps was established. The start was made at 8.30 and the men took the guns by way of Queen's Road and the Praya to North Point, the fife and drum band of the West Yorkshire Regiment playing lively airs during nearly the whole of the march. On arriving at their destination the men were served with refreshments, which Major Carrington kindly provided, and after a halt of a few minutes the men returned, headquarters being reached at 11.30. The officers on parade were Major Carrington (Commandant), Captain Gordon, R.A. (Adjutant), Lieutenants Chapman, Macdonald, and Maitland.

No one likes to lose or be robbed of presentations, and many people will regret to hear that Mr. W. Winterburn, the manager of Messrs. George Fenwick and Co., has had a valuable presentation gold medal stolen from him by one of his servants. The medal was presented to Mr. Winterburn about two years ago by Mr. D. Gillies at the Institute of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong for a treatise he wrote on screw propellers, and it was stolen from a drawer where he kept his jewellery. Not only was he robbed of his medal, but the thief took away articles of jewellery and about \$18 in money, the whole of the property being worth altogether over \$300. The houseboy has been arrested, the allegation being that he took the keys of the safe and jewellery drawer from his master's trousers pocket. He was brought up at the Police Court on Saturday and remanded until Friday, bail being allowed.

Considerable speculation is just now being indulged in as to who will fill the various official positions vacant in Hongkong. It is said that Mr. Mitchell Innes, the Colonial Treasurer, has accepted the appointment as Governor of a goal at home and that the Hon. A. M. Thomson will fill his place as Colonial Treasurer. No official information has, however, been received on this point. We may state that the order of seniority amongst the cadets is—Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, Mr. A. M. Thomson, Mr. J. T. Buckle, and Mr. F. J. Badeley, while Commander Hastings, although not a cadet, has put in service which certainly deserves recognition. Mr. T. Sercombe Smith will probably be appointed Postmaster-General, there being no legal appointment open for him, and Mr. Brewin Assistant Colonial Secretary. We believe that Commander Hastings has applied for the post of Postmaster-General, but of course it is impossible to say at present how the vacancies will be filled.

On the 30th November Chan Tai Yan, the Causeway Bay murderer, was hanged at Victoria Gaol. While in gaol the convict conducted himself well and gave absolutely no trouble to the gaol officials. He expressed himself as anxious to meet his doom and as he walked on to the scaffold he showed no signs of fear and really did not require the assistance of the warders who held him under the arms. The permanent scaffold, which has lately been erected, was used and the trap instantly acted to the drawing of the lever. There were present at the execution Mr. Lethbridge, the Superintendent of the Gaol, Dr. Bell, Medical Officer, Chief Warder Craig, Inspector Quincey, who attended to interpret anything the man had to say, and three reporters. The convict made no statement. In the afternoon the inquest was held, the jury men being Messrs. R. B. Joyce, F. W. Hall, and O. Wegener. Dr. Bell said the cause of death, which was instantaneous, was dislocation of the neck, and a verdict in accordance with this evidence was returned.

We hear it is likely that a Volunteer dance will be held during the forthcoming season.

The following notification appears in the *Gazette*:—"H.E. the Governor has been pleased to appoint, provisionally and subject to Her Majesty's pleasure, Henry Lardner Denny, to be Crown Solicitor, with effect from the 1st December, 1896, in succession to Alfred Bulmer Johnson, resigned."

On Thursday night the Royal Engineer Variety Club held a supper at the Boat-shed, Wellington Barracks, for the purpose of bidding farewell to the members of the Club leaving the station and also for presenting them with souvenirs of their association with the Club. The toasts of "the Queen," "the Officers of our Corps," and "Our departing members" were proposed and drunk enthusiastically during the course of the supper, after which the Chairman (C.S. M. Hanson, manager of the Club) said that in saying good-bye to all their comrades leaving for England and elsewhere he had also a very pleasing duty to perform, namely, to present to each member who had taken an active part in the Club during its existence a slight token of the esteem in which their efforts had been held by the other members. He therefore had great pleasure in presenting to Mr. Farr (late R.E.) a silver mounted malacca cane, and to Messrs. Stainton, Galton, Coventry, Underwood, Shorey, Tooze, Mills, Pritchard, Macken, Thomson, Hewison, Davis and Kimber each a silver mounted stick of rhinoceros horn, engraved with their names and the name of the Club, and he hoped that every time they looked at these they would remember the happy times spent together in Hongkong. Mr. Farr in replying to the presentation said that he could not express his feelings at the good wishes of the Club, but hoped that as his name was one of the first to be on the list of members it would also be one of the last to be taken off. Songs were then indulged in, Messrs. Stainton, Rogers, Underwood, Tooze, and Blackler contributing to the harmony, the last named being presented with a bouquet by an enthusiastic member of the audience at the conclusion of his song. The toast of the Committee of the Club having been drunk and responded to, the members concluded a very enjoyable evening with "Auld Lang Syne."

The Right Rev. Bishop Burdon and Mrs. Burdon left by the P. and O. steamer *Japan* on Saturday for Marseilles, and will, we understand, spend the winter in the South of Europe, proceeding in the spring to England. Bishop Burdon has resigned charge of the diocese, but it is probable that after spending some time at home he may return to Hongkong to continue his literary work. His Lordship will carry with him the best wishes of the whole community and their hope that he may be spared for many years yet to enjoy a retirement well earned by over forty years of laborious work in China. He has never spared himself when any call was made upon him, and as an instance of the generosity with which he sacrificed his time and energy we may mention that during the period the Rev. R. F. Cobbold was absent on leave he conducted the services at St. John's Cathedral and visited the Gaol and Hospital, his work in that connection being entirely voluntary and saving the congregation the expense of providing a salaried *locum tenens* for Mr. Cobbold. Crockford's Clerical Directory gives the following account of the Bishop's career:—"Victoria, Right Rev. John Shaw Burdon, Lord Bishop of Victoria, Hongkong, Church Missionary College, Islington, 1850. Deacon, 1852. London for Colonies, priest, 1854. Victoria, Doctor of Divinity by Archbishop of Canterbury, 1874. Consecrated 15th March, 1874, by Bishop (Jackson) of London (acting for Archbishop of Canterbury) and Bishops (Browne) of Winchester and (Cloughton) of Rochester. Jurisdiction over the Churches of England, Missions and the English congregations in Hongkong and South China. Income of See £1,000. Formerly Missionary (Church Missionary Society) at Shanghai, 1853-60; Ningpo, 1861; Shaohying, 1862; Peking, 1862-73; on furlough 1873-74. Assisted in translating the New Testament from the original Greek into Mandarin Chinese (completed in 1871); translator (with Bishop Schereschewsky) of the Book of Common Prayer into Mandarin Chinese."

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

(CANTON, 1st December.—Macao Congous.—Settlements during the past fortnight amount to 8,800 boxes at Tls. 12-2½ per picul. During the early part of this period prices declined Tl. 1 per picul, but latterly there has been no change. Recent supplies, although more plentiful, are rather disappointing in quality, and there are very few Teas with the true Honeysuckle flavour, the weather having been unfavourable. A few small shipments are going forward to Australia, South America, and the Continent. Scented Capers.—No further purchases have transpired during the past fortnight, and the quantity remaining unshipped is estimated at 5/6,000 boxes, including a few small consignments on native account.

SHANGHAI, 27th November.—(From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular).—Our last printed Tea market advices were under date 13th instant. Black Tea.—The settlements reported were mostly made before the departure of last mail, and the business has dwindled down to the occasional purchase of a chop by one buyer, but sellers are waiting for a demand and not forcing sales. The absence of demand in this market is hardly to be wondered at when Shanghai purchases at Tls. 11½ have been lately sold in London at the equivalent of Tls. 9, and some Hankow purchases at Tls. 30 and Tls. 53 are reported to have been sold at the equivalent of Tls. 15 a picul, and a Tea costing Tls. 49 at the equivalent of Tls. 19.

Settlements reported are:—
Ningchow. 173 chts. at Tls. 12.50 to 17.00 a picul.
Wenchow. 108 " Shipped
Oonam. 1,527 " at Tls. 12.25 to 15.00 "
Oopack. 1,042 " 12.25 to 12.75 "

Total...2,860 ½ chests.

Green Teas.—Pingsueys.—There is very little change to note in prices, but the quantity settled during the interval is hardly half of that for the previous fortnight. Some of the Teamen have been putting out musters of "Lie" Tea, such as we have not seen for three or four years, to test the capabilities of the market, and one or two settlements are said to have been made, but nearly every buyer refuses to offer for them.

Country Teas.—Prices are somewhat irregular, but on the whole are remarkably well maintained at the high range established over a month ago. Supplies from the country are nearly at an end, and as soon as the present stocks are sold the season will be virtually closed. Hysons.—All qualities have been in fair demand. "Choice" Teas advanced temporarily half a tael a picul, but the market closes steady at about last mail's quotations. The total yield this season will be little short of 100,000 half-chests. The total yield of Green Tea, including Hysons, this season promises to be about 26,500,000 lbs. as compared with 33,800,000 lbs. last season, and will probably be distributed as follows:—

	1896-1897	1895-1896
To Batoum	abt. 700,000	agt. 200,000
To Bombay	4,800,000	" 5,400,000
To Great Britain	5,000,000	" 6,700,000
To the United States and Canada	16,000,000	" 21,500,000

Settlements reported since 13th inst. —

Pingsuey	7,317 ½ chts. at Tls. 20.25 to 23.25 a picul.
Moyune	6,303 " 23.50 to 35.00 "
Tienkai	6,616 " 20.50 to 33.50 "
Fyehow	327 " 19.50 to 21.00 "

Total...20,563 ½ chts.

Settlements from opening of the market to date:—

	Settlements.	Stock.
Pingsuey	126,848 ½ chts. ...	11,828 ½ chts.
Moyune	78,710 " "	" "
Tienkai	55,986 " "	6,594 " "
Fyehow	15,538 " "	" "
Local picked	7,430 " "	564 " "

Total...284,012 ½ chts. ... 18,986 ½ chts.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao	5,766,784	6,639,427
Shanghai and Hankow	17,296,142	19,439,827
Foochow	12,009,532	8,518,499
	35,072,458	34,597,753

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	16,070,588	23,506,818
Amoy	14,569,921	9,811,946
Foochow	1,131,222	1,608,212
	31,771,731	34,926,976

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow	22,949,123	27,240,863

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	23,661,635	23,739,475
Kobe	12,056,862	17,538,581
	35,718,497	41,278,056

SILK.

Shanghai 27th November.—(From Mr. A. R. Burkill's Circular).—London telegrams are to 23th current and quote Gold Kilin S/7½ and Blue Elephants 10/3. Raw Silk.—Another very quiet week has passed with little or no current demand. Prices are a trifle easier for Tastes, but well maintained for Coarse and Yellow Silks. The New York market continues to be a disappointment and holders of hand and steam Filatures are getting rather anxious for orders. Tastes.—About 300 bales have found buyers at quotations. Gold Kilin is quoted Tls. 355. Taysams.—A purchase of Chincum Peach-tree I. at Tls. 383½ is reported, and some Lie Skeins have been bought at Tls. 312½. Yellow Silks.—Over 200 bales have been booked, prices are very strong, and for good parcels further advances are asked and have been paid. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns 19th to 25th November, are 1,325 bales White, 343 piculs Yellow, and 202 piculs Wild Silks. Filatures and Re-reels.—One or two small lots of Hand Filatures have been bought for the Continent, and a small parcel of Re-reels for America. Waste Silk.—Settlements for the week are about 2,500 piculs, and include Curries 1, 2, 3, at Tls. 54. Frisonnets at Tls. 18½ to 19½. Pierced Cocoons at Tls. 54 to 60 for Woozie and Yuhong, and Boiled Waste at Tls. 11½.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1896-97	1895-96
	bales.	bales.
Canton	15,330	11,633
Shanghai	27,367	39,777
Yokohama	5,471	12,671
	48,668	64,086

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	bales.	bales.
Canton	1,632	7,126
Shanghai	2,019	5,797
Yokohama	6,281	17,578
	9,932	30,496

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—The market continues to advance and supplies are small. Quotations for Formosa are \$55.00 to \$55.50. During the week sales have been 120 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—A further advance has to be reported. Following are the quotations:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.22 to 7.25 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.62 to 6.65 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.52 to 4.55 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.37 to 4.40 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.17 to 7.20 "
do. " 2, White...	6.23 to 6.25 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.44 to 4.46 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.24 to 4.30 "
Soochow Sugar Candy	11.12 to 11.15 "
Shekloong	9.54 to 9.57 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The German steamer *Ceres*, Hongkong to Odessa 15th November, took:—50 cases Staraniseed; for Havre:—1,747 rolls Matting, 5 cases Human Hair, 15 cases Staraniseed, 414 bales Bamboo, 29 boxes Bristles, 20 boxes Essential Oil, and 1 box Feathers; for Havre option Hamburg:—350 rolls

Matting, 405 cases Camphor, 25 cases Cassia, 10 cases Human Hair, 2 cases Silks, 6 cases Paper, and 25 cases Broken Cassia; for Havre option Hamburg:—350 cases Camphor, 100 cases Bristles, and 5 cases Human Hair; for Hamburg:—100 packages Crackers, 496 bales Feathers, 220 rolls Matting, 70 bales Canes, 8 cases Canes, 30 bales Rattan Shavings, 145 cases Preserves, 13 cases Preserves, 223 packages Tea, 39 packages Private Effects, 1,000 cases Broken Cassia, 200 cases Cassia, 83 cases Palmleaf fans, 49 cases Tea Sticks, 410 cases Camphor, and 9 packages Sundries; for Hamburg option Antwerp:—93 packages Rattanware; for Hamburg option London:—1,000 boxes Tea and 300 cases Cassia Ligna; for Amsterdam:—200 cases Ginger; for Bremen:—20 rolls Matting; for London:—37 cases Cassia Oil and 178 bales Duck Feathers.

The steamer *Mogul*, Hongkong to New York 16th November, took:—473 packages Merchandise.

The American ship *S. D. Carleton*, Hongkong to New York 18th November, took:—19,720 rolls Matting, 13,137 packages Crackers, 1,527 packages Tea, 1,000 bales Broken Cassia, 639 packages Joss Sticks, 80 packages Heather Scrubs, 50 cases Fang, 50 cases Woodware, 50 cases Rattanware, 40 cases Earthenware, and 20 cases Cotton-hats.

The American ship *El Capitan*, Hongkong to Baltimore 19th November, took:—16,127 rolls Matting and 73 packages Merchandise.

The American ship *William J. Rotch*, Hongkong to New York 21st November, took:—183 packages Merchandise, 2,000 bales Cassia, 11,580 rolls Matting and 16,576 packages Tea.

The steamer *Teucer*, Hongkong to London 22nd November, took:—4,347 boxes Tea (34,503 lbs. Congou, 56,784 lbs. Scented Caper), 57 cases Essential Oil, 70 cases Cigars, 33 cases Preserves, 465 cases Preserves, 100 cases Soy, 52 bales Pierced Cocoons, 82 bales Feathers, 167 bales Canes, 150 bales Mats, and 19 packages Sundries; for London option Manchester:—226 bales Waste Silk; for Manchester:—1 case Effects; for Glasgow:—30 bundles Straw Baskets, and 5 cases Cigars; for New York:—92 cases Essential Oil and 1 package Plumbago; for Beyrouth:—13 cases Glass Bangles.

The steamer *Melbourne*, Hongkong to France 25th November, took:—180 bales Raw Silk, 301 bales Waste Silk, 200 bales Hemp, 6 bales Hair, 12 cases Silk Piece Goods, 17 cases Curios, 3 cases Chinaware, 75 cases Staraniseed, 718 packages Tea, and 1 case Ilang Ilang; for London:—2 cases Silk Piece Goods.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—Bengal.—The market has receded during the interval. New Patna Closing at \$717½, Old Patna, of the year before last, at \$630, New and Old Benares at \$720.

Malwa.—There has been a steady business in this drug at slightly improved rates. Closing quotations are as under:—

New (this yr's)	\$770 with all'ance of 0 to ¼ cts.
Old (last yr's)	\$780 " 0 to 1 "
" (2¼ yrs.)	\$790 " 0 to 1 "
Older	\$800 " 1 to 1½ "

Persian.—Very little business has passed in this drug during the past week, and quotations close at \$500 to \$530 for Oily, and at \$500 to \$570 for Paper-wrapped descriptions according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna	2,000 chests.
Old Patna	21 " "
New Benares	820 " "
Old Benares	290 " "
Malwa	450 " "
Persian	430 " "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Nov. 25	722½	630	732½	722½	770/780	790/800
Nov. 26	722½	630	732½	722½	770/780	790/800
Nov. 27	720	630	730	722½	770/780	790/800
Nov. 28	720	630	730	722½	770/780	790/800
Nov. 29	720	630	730	722½	770/780	790/800
Nov. 30	720	630	727½	722½	770/780	790/800
Dec. 1	720	630	725	720	770/780	790/800
Dec. 2	717½	630	720	722½	770/780	790/800

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—Owing to heavy arrivals since the departure of the last mail, rates have dropped from \$0 1/4 to \$1. Stock 2,400 bales.

Bombay	\$18.00 to 18.50 p. pl.
Kurrachee	16.50 to 17.00 "
Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca	17.50 to 18.00 "
Shanghai and Japanese ..	21.00 to 21.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo ..	21.00 to 21.50 "
Madras	18.00 to 19.00 "

Sales: 460 bales Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—New crop grain is coming forward and the market is weaker. Closing quotations are:—

	per picul.
Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.47 to 2.50
" Round, good quality	2.68 to 2.70
" Long	2.81 to 2.84
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ..	2.60 to 2.63
" Garden, " No. 1 ..	2.82 to 2.85
" White	3.47 to 3.50
" Fine Cargo	3.70 to 3.73

COALS.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—Small sales of 25,000 tons Japanese on private terms are reported. Quotations are:—

Cardiff	\$15.00 to 16.50 ex godown, nom.
Australian ...	6.25 to 6.50 ex ship, nominal.
Milke Lump ...	5.69 to 5.75 ex ship, nominal.
Milke Small ...	4.65 to — ex ship, do
Moji Lump ...	4.25 to 5.75 ex ship, nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—75 bales No. 6 at \$69 to \$70, 50 bales No. 8 at \$79.50, 1,015 bales No. 10 at \$79 to \$83.50, 3.0 bales No. 12 at \$80 to \$87, 420 bales No. 16 at \$84.50 to \$90.50, 1,415 bales No. 20 at \$93 to \$104. *Grey Shirtings*.—1,000 pieces 11 lbs. Red Flower at \$3.30, 700 pieces 7 lbs. Eagle at \$1.94, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men at \$3.32 1/2, 1,200 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. 3 Dogs at \$3, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. C. W. W. to \$3.90, 2,200 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Joss at \$2.92 1/2 to \$2.95, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Peach at \$2.87 1/2, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Sycee at \$3.90, 300 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Double Fish at \$2.77 1/2, 1,200 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Pheasant at \$2.20. *White Shirtings*.—500 pieces D. 70 at \$3.52 1/2, 450 pieces Blue Lion at \$3.77 1/2, 250 pieces No. 500 Cat Head at \$1.40, 500 pieces Flower at \$4.75, 250 pieces No. 3 at \$3.37 1/2, 500 pieces No. 300 at \$3.52 1/2, 500 pieces Peacock at \$3.50, 300 pieces Gold Tiger at \$5.92 1/2, 500 pieces Green Stag at \$3.47 1/2, 1,700 pieces No. 600 at \$4.35, 500 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.72 1/2, 1,000 pieces K. K. at \$3.95, 500 pieces 1 at \$3, 500 pieces Gold Horse at \$4.42 1/2, 1,000 pieces No. 3 at \$3.37 1/2, 500 pieces D. 70 at \$3.32 1/2. *T-Cloths*.—1,200 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican V. V. at \$3, 1,500 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Hunter and Stag at \$3.10, 1,200 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican X. X. at \$3.05, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.37 1/2, 1,200 pieces 8 lbs. Gold Dragon at \$2.62 1/2, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Crown at \$2.62 1/2. *Spanish Stripes*.—72 pieces B. B. assorted at \$0.57.

Shanghai 26th November.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co's Piece Goods Trade Report). Piece Goods.—Although quietness has continued to be the prevailing feature of the market there are, at the same time, distinct symptoms of a general improvement in enquiry which, no doubt, is fully appreciated by importers. So far, it is true, no great increase in the volume of sales by importers is to be noted, but at the same time there is a considerable enquiry among native holders, and this will doubtless be overcome when prices become assimilated, and there are already sound signs of the elements of a good general business. Enquiry is much more general and it is rumoured that already some lines of Grey Goods and White Shirtings have been booked for delivery next spring, and this would indicate that the Manchester market is now more ready to meet offers from this side than hitherto. The same is also said about the New York market, but having heard of no actual business being done, we can speak with no confidence on the matter. Newchwang is now closed for the season, and the Tientsin dealers are busy preparing for the departure of the last steamers for their port. So far they have paid most attention to sending forward supplies of American Goods, clearances of English makes being much lower than in former years, but as there are still several steamers to be despatched, some improvement may be seen.

Advices from Hankow are much more encouraging and better, but still buyers decline to pay the prices demanded by the holders here. Ningpo continues to take requirements in the usual quiet way. At auction, prices are better, the improvement being noticeable in Cottons, most of which have advanced, but in Woollens the position is different, the rise being neither so general or decided.

Metals.—(From Messrs. Alex. Biefield & Co's report.)—27th November.—During the past week there has been nothing done beyond petty transaction in sundries. With regard to the outlook for the coming year, all authorities seem to concur in prognosticating a much better market. There had already been a decided improvement in the home and Continental markets when the last mail left, October 17th, in anticipation of the election of Mr. McKinley, as President of the United States, and now that this event has occurred, there is expected to be a regular "boom" in all branches of business. The long looked-for awakening of China which appears to have at last from many indications commenced in earnest should cause a "boom" here also and the projected railways, which, while still only in the embryo stage, are now beyond the more speculative period, will assuredly react strongly for the better on all our transactions. So that while it may be annoying for the time being there is still every reason to wait as patiently as possible for the good time coming.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

WEDNESDAY, 2nd December.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/1 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	2/1 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/1 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight ..	2/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.67
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.72
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.16
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	51 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	52 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	166
Bank, on demand	166 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	166
Bank, on demand	166 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	73 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	4% pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	9% pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	4% pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	9.30
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	48.60

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, December 2nd.—The market has continued inactive and there is still nothing of any importance to report. Rates generally have shown an inclination to a further decline, especially over the settlements, which, however, passed off satisfactorily, on the 30th ultimo.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai show a further fall to 179 per cent. prem., at which rate shares changed hands after small sales at 180; at time of writing the market shows some signs of a slight recovery with a small enquiry for odd lots at 180 per cent. prem. Nationals have been negotiated at \$26 1/2, closing with sellers. Bank of China Founders are enquired for in the North at \$5, but Ordinaries are still on offer at \$1 without finding buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have been taken off the market in small lots at \$75 1/2, but larger parcels are obtainable at \$75. Cantons remain steady with no sellers at \$185, whilst Unions show an unaccountable drop to \$225 with sellers and no buyers. Straits have ruled quiet and unchanged with small sales at quotation. Yangtzes and North Chinas have changed hands in the North at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong's continue on the upward course, holders being very firm and expecting higher rates. Sales at \$365 and \$370 have taken place, the market closing

steady at \$369 to \$370. Chinas have remained dull and more or less neglected at \$103 and close quiet.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have been changing hands throughout the week at \$32 1/2 and at equivalent rates on time, chiefly for January 31st at \$33 1/2 and \$34. Market closes quiet to steady at quotations. Indo-Chinas, with shares offering from the North, have continued dull and weak, shares having changed hands in small lots at \$40, but at time of closing they are wanted at \$40 1/2. China and Manila continue out of the market with no sales or change in rate to report. Douglasses have fully maintained the improvement reported last week and have changed hands at \$59 to a fair extent; shares are also enquired for on time at equivalent rates, but none seem to be forthcoming; market closes steady to strong. China Mutuals are still on offer at quotations without finding buyers.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars.—Notwithstanding the temporary firmness reported last week the market has ruled decidedly weak, with shares changing hands at \$136, \$135 1/2, and \$135, and with sellers at equivalent rates on time, the closing rate is \$135 1/2 to \$135. Luxons have ruled quiet but steady with small sales at quotation.

MINING.—Punjoms, after further sales at \$13.25, fell again to \$13 with sales and sellers on account of news having come to hand of the indisposition of the Cyanider and of his having been compelled to leave the works and proceed to Singapore. It is stated, however, that his absence will not interfere with the working of the process, as Mr. Jolly, the Chief Engineer, is capable of carrying on the work. The report from the mine which appears in our local papers of 1st and 2nd instant is good and promising reading for shareholders. Charbonnages continue dull and inactive with no sales and a nominal quotation. Shareholders should note that it is now necessary to send the original scrips to Paris in order to have them exchanged for new ones, which latter only will be negotiable on the Paris bourse; the old scrips should be forwarded without delay to The Societe Francaise des Charbonnages du Tonkin, No. 5, Rue de Caumartin, Paris. New Balmorals.—A fairly satisfactory report has been received from the mines, but shares show a decline with sales at \$1. A meeting of shareholders is called for the 14th inst. to discuss the advisability of reducing the capital by two-thirds and of issuing preference shares to the extent of \$75,000, bearing cumulative interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, the first call on earnings; further particulars may be gathered from the advertisement in the local papers. Jelebus have ruled firmer and been enquired for, without producing much business, small sales only having been effected at the increased rate of \$2.75 to \$2.85. Ranba have been in some demand for Singapore at \$8.75 to \$9, but holders are not inclined to part at these rates and the market closes firm at \$9.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks weakened over settlements to 214 after sales during the week at 215 and 216; shares are wanted on time at the equivalent of the first named rate, but sellers will not operate; market closes steady at 215 per cent. prem. The earnings of the Company for October were between \$93,000 and \$94,000, not a record month, but a very good one; the November earnings are also generally understood to be very good and everything points to the Company showing a result for the half year ending 31st instant at least equal to, and probably better than, the handsome one earned for the first half of the year. Wharves have been firm with sales and buyers at \$59, the earnings of the Company are reported to be improving. Wanchais continue quiet and without business at quotation.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands as usual have ruled steady at \$76 1/2 and \$76 with sales at that rate. Hotels are enquired for at \$29 1/2 without finding sellers. West Points have been quiet with small sales at \$18 1/2. Humphreys Estates have changed hands at \$8.75.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Small sales of Watsons at \$12.25, Electrics at \$6.50, and Ropes at \$145 to \$146, constitute the business under this heading.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks.		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	180 % prem. =
China & Japan, prf.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary	£1-10s	nominal
Do. deferred	£1	25, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	28	\$26½
Founders Shares	21	\$100, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	15s	\$150
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	(in liquidation).
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$8
China Sugar	\$100	\$135, sales
Dakin, Crutcher & Co.	\$5	nominal
Dairy Farm Co.	\$5	\$5, nominal
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$29½
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$19, sellers
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$110
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$6.50, sales & sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$95, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$30, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$107, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$59, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$148
H. & W. Dock	\$125	215 p. ct. prem. =
Insurance.		
Canton	\$50	\$185
China Fire	\$20	\$103, sales
China Traders	\$25	\$75, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$369, sellers
North-China	£25	Tls. 192½
Straits	\$20	\$26½, sales & sellers
Union	\$25	\$225, sales & sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$145
Land and Building.		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$76, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$8.75, sales
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$17½, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$18½, sellers
Luxon Sugar	\$100	\$45, sales & buyers
Mining.		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	72½
Jelebu	\$5	\$2.85, sales
New Balmoral	\$3	\$1, sales
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$6, sellers
Do. B.	\$2½	\$3.25, sellers
Punjum	\$4	\$13, sales & sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$3.90, sal. & buyers
Rents	13s. 10d.	\$9, sales
Steamship Coys.		
China and Manila	\$50	\$69, sellers
China Mutual Ord.	£5	£2.10, sellers
Do. Preference	£10	£7, sellers
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$59, sales & sellers
H. Canton and N.	\$15	\$32½, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$41, sales & sellers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$45 [& sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12.25, ex div. sales

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 27th November.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Business has not been very lively during the week, and, with exception of Fire Insurance and Land shares, the market has had a tendency to droop. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—On the 20th shares were purchased, from Hongkong, at 182½/183 per cent. premium. Local shares have since changed hands at 183½/184 per cent. premium, which were full rates, and shares have since been sold at 182½ with a purchase from Hongkong at 180 per cent. premium, which we quote as the closing rate. National Bank shares are wanted in Hongkong at \$26.50. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares were sold on the 23rd at Tls. 28.75 cash and Tls. 30 for December delivery. Afterwards Tls. 29.50 was paid for November shares, and a sale at the same rate for December is reported. The market closes steady with inclination to sell. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares were placed to Hongkong at \$32.75 and \$33. At the close there are buyers at the former rate, and sellers at the latter. Douglas Steamship shares after selling in Hongkong at \$60, are offering there at \$59. Docks.—S. C. Farnham & Co. shares have been in demand, and Tls. 185 was paid for shares. The market then weakened and shares changed hands at Tls. 181. Shanghai Dock shares, with Tls. 50 paid up, have been sold at Tls. 49. Marine Insurance.—In Hongkong China Traders shares were sold at \$75, while Unions, after changing hands at \$280, are offering at \$232½. North-Chinas have been placed for the 28th February at Tls. 202½. Sales of Yangtzes at \$145 cash and \$152½ for December are reported. Straits have been placed to Hongkong at \$26 and \$26½, and are offering at the latter price. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs were placed to Hongkong at \$355. They are now quoted \$362½. Chinas

were sold to Hongkong at \$108½ and \$103. Sugar.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were sold at Tls. 27 cash, Tls. 26 for December, and Tls. 28/29 for March. China Sugar Refining shares changed hands at \$187½. The Hongkong rate is \$186. Luzons are wanted at \$45. Lands.—Shanghai have been sold, and are wanted, at Tls. 82½. Hongkongs have been purchased from Hongkong at \$77. Industrial.—Major Brothers shares are wanted at Tls. 40, and are held for Tls. 43. E-wo Cotton shares have been sold at Tls. 85, and Internationals at 92½. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Waterworks shares are wanted at Tls. 252½, but are held for Tls. 255. Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 102 cash, Tls. 103 for the 30th current, Tls. 105 for December, and Tls. 10½ for March. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares changed hands at Tls. 32½. Shanghai Horse Bazaar, shares were sold at Tls. 72½, and Hall & Holtz shares at \$37 cash and \$38½ for March delivery.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 2nd December.—Since last report business has continued very quiet and, excepting coal charters from Japan, there has been very little doing during the last fortnight. Saigon freights remains about as last quoted. To Hongkong no settlements are reported and tonnage is not enquired for. From Bangkok a little business has been done for Singapore, but trade with Hongkong shows no improvement. From Java and from the Philippines to this there is no enquiry at present. In Japan coal freights a good number of settlements are reported and rates remain firm at last quotation, viz., \$1.20 for Hongkong and \$2.10 for Singapore, at which figures further tonnage could be placed. The Newchwang season has closed and no further fixtures were made after last report. In sail freights one fixture has been made hence to New York. For San Francisco the *Clan Macfarlane* will leave shortly and further tonnage does not appear to be much wanted.

There are six vessels disengaged in port, registering 9,694 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Penobscot—American barque, 1,067 tons, hence to New York, private terms.

Falkenberg—German steamer, 1,175 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$2.10 per ton.

Dogar—German steamer, 1,202 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$2.10 per ton.

Sialon—German steamer, 724 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20 per ton.

Cosmopolis—German steamer, 671 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20 per ton.

Loyal—Dutch steamer, 1,237 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20 per ton.

Independent—German steamer, 1,008 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20 per ton.

Quarta—German steamer, 146 tons, Moji to Hongkong and Canton, \$1.20 and \$1.50 per ton.

Chebyra—British steamer, 1,574 tons, Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, private terms.

Martha—German steamer, 1,560 tons, two ports Java to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

A China Navigation Company's steamer, Saigon to Sourabaya, 16½ cents per picul.

Loyal—Dutch steamer, 1,237 tons, hence to Yokohama, 7 cents per picul.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Aden* (str.), *Palawan* (str.), *Ulysses* (str.), *Benledi* (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Coptic* (str.), *Clan Macfarlane*, *Matterhorn* (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—*Yamaguchi Maru* (str.), *Ernest Simons* (str.).

For BREMEN.—*Sachsen* (str.).

For VICTORIA.—*Tacoma* (str.).

For NEW YORK.—*William H. Smith*, *Penobscot*.

For AUSTRALIA.—*Tokio Maru* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

November—ARRIVALS.

24, R. R. Thomas, Amr. ship, from N. York.
25, Decima, German str., from Saigon.
25, Kwongsang, British str., from Newchwang.
25, Chittagang, British str., from Moji.
25, Nanyang, German str., from Canton.
25, Picciola, German str., from Newchwang.
25, Dagmar, Norw. str., from Moji.
25, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
25, Oceana, German str., from Hamburg.
25, Fooksang, British str., from Shanghai.

25, Quarta, German str., from Canton.
26, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
26, Peru, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
26, Claverhill, British str., from Amoy.
26, Doris, German str., from Newchwang.
26, Michael Jensen, German str., from Moji.
26, Pyrrhus, British str., from Liverpool.
26, Prosper, Norw. str., from Swatow.
26, Sullberg, German str., from Haiphong.
26, Suwo, British str., from Glasgow.
26, Japan, British str., from Yokohama.
27, Kalgan, British str., from Canton.
27, Peiyang, British str., from Canton.
27, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
27, Glenfalloch, British str., from London.
27, Keongwai, British str., from Moji.
27, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
27, Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.
27, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notsu.
27, Bisagno, Italian str., from Bombay.
27, Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
27, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Swatow.
27, Taiyuan, British str., from Yokohama.
28, Kweiyang, British str., from Tientsin.
28, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
28, Swift, British gunboat, from Swatow.
28, Elax, British str., from Batoum.
28, Frejr, Danish str., from Amoy.
28, Hangchow, British str., from Canton.
29, Benvorlich, British str., from Amoy.
29, Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
29, Doris, German str., from Canton.
29, Foochow, British str., from Chefoo.
29, Gerda, German str., from Kobe.
29, Guthrie, British str., from Sydney.
29, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
29, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
29, Humber, British storeship, from Nagasaki.
29, Kansu, British str., from Wuhu.
29, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
29, Progress, German str., from Chefoo.
29, Clara, German str., from Newchwang.
29, Pakling, British str., from Liverpool.
30, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
30, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
30, Rohilla, British str., from Bombay.
30, Tamsui, British str., from Shanghai.
30, Singan, British str., from Wuhu.
30, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
30, Zaragoza, Mexican cruiser, from Nagasaki.
30, Coptic, British str., from San Francisco.

December—

1, Ravenna, British str., from Shanghai.
1, Verona, British str., from Yokohama.
1, Ask, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
1, Marie Jensen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
1, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
1, Hunan, British str., from Swatow.
1, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
1, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
2, Fooksang, British str., from Canton.
2, Taileo, German str., from Hongay.
2, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.
2, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
2, Skuld, Norw. str., from Iloilo.

November—DEPARTURES.

25, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
25, Yarra, French str., for Shanghai.
25, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
25, China, German str., for Saigon.
25, Alacrity, H.B.M. des-ves., for Singapore.
25, Empress of India, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
25, Melbourne, French str., for Europe.
25, Menmuir, British str., for Sydney.
25, Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.
25, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
25, Taicheong, German str., for Swatow.
26, Benlawers, British str., for Nagasaki.
26, Namoa, British str., for Swatow.
26, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.
26, Cromarty, British str., for Nagasaki.
26, Doris, German str., for Canton.
26, Fooksang, British str., for Canton.
26, Nanyang, German str., for Shanghai.
27, Pyrrhus, British str., for Shanghai.
27, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
27, Nanshan, British str., for Swatow.
27, Picciola, German str., for Sourabaya.
27, Centurion, British cruiser, for Singapore.
27, Pique, British cruiser, for Manila.
27, Port Adelaide, British str., for Kobe.
27, Suwo, British str., for Shanghai.
28, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
28, Taksang, British str., for Tamsui.
28, Kalgan, British str., for Shanghai.
28, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
28, Claverhill, British str., for New York.

28, Glenalloch, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Japan, British str., for London.
 28, Kutsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 28, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 28, Propontis, British str., for Singapore.
 28, Swatow, German str., for Vladivostok.
 28, Saïda, Austrian cruiser, for Singapore.
 29, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Hangchow, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 29, Independent, German str., for Moji.
 29, Ingraban, German str., for Touron.
 29, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
 29, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
 29, Mongkut, British str., for Bangkok.
 29, Oceana, German str., for Yokohama.
 29, Shantung, British str., for Java.
 29, Sullberg, German str., for Haiphong.
 29, Tajsang, British str., for Canton.
 30, Amara, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Foochow, British str., for Canton.
 30, Kansu, British str., for Canton.
 30, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
 30, Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.
 30, Tamsui, British str., for Canton.
 30, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.

December—

1, Clara, German str., for Canton.
 1, Guthrie, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Progress, German str., for Canton.
 1, Rohilla, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Benvorlich, British str., for N. York.
 1, Gerda, German str., for Hamburg.
 1, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Kwongsang, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Pakling, British str., for Amoy.
 1, Singan, British str., for Canton.
 2, Hunan, British str., for Canton.
 2, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 2, Elax, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Fooksang, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
 2, Loyal, Dutch str., for Yokohama.
 2, Taiyuan, British str., for Port Darwin.
 2, L. Schipp, Amr. ship, for New York.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Namoa*, str., from Swatow—Mr. Richards.
 Per *Melbourne*, str., from Hongkong from Shanghai—Mr. Ed. Perreira and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. dos Remedios, Mr. Fausto de Figueiredo, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. de Senna, Messrs. K. Hisota and G. de Souza and family, Mrs. Guesdes and family, Mrs. E. Robins, Messrs. J. H. Howes, G. C. C. Master and family, J. Campbell, L. Hubert Owen, and E. R. Burdon. From Yokohama—Messrs. C. Michelan, F. Brien, E. Courandy, Mrs. W. Balfour Kinneer, Mrs. C. S. Moore, Messrs. Lam Tsze Un, G. Gaggino, S. Camroodin, and E. David. From Kobe—Messrs. A. Essabhy and family and T. S. Slade, Miss M. Slade, Messrs. H. Holm, A. R. Collins, and Cheang Huen Chu. From Shanghai—Messrs. C. M. de Senna, P. K. de Senna, A. Platte, and Henry Swemy. For Saigon from Yokohama—Mr. M. Sellier. For Singapore from Yokohama—Mr. A. C. Newcombe, and 2 Roman Catholic Sisters. For Singapore from Kobe—Rev. Y. Huber. For Port Said from Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. D. Seleznoff, Messrs. G. Rolokoltzoff and A. Rolokoltzoff. For Marseilles from Shanghai—Mr. J. E. Borde, Père Bruglant, Mr. J. C. A. Holz, Miss Baker, Père F. Delmas, and Père J. Bonzani. From Yokohama—Messrs. K. Takemeki, T. Kikuchi, T. Oka, S. Kawakami, T. Nagasawa, K. Yagi, H. Ito, T. Okamura, and 2 Roman Catholic Sisters. From Kobe—Messrs. F. Katsura, K. Hachitsume, A. Moses.

Per *Yarra*, str., for Hongkong from Marseilles—Mr. A. G. Stokes, Père Lecorre, Père Ganja, Sisters Emilie de Marie, Caroline du Rosaire, and Josephe de l'Eucharistie. From Singapore—Mme. Vincent and 2 children, Mme. Derick and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Ellinger, Messrs. Goh Hin Nam, Thop Lip Say, Lotman, Peng Hen, and Tuck Sang. From Saigon—Père Thevenut. For Shanghai from Marseilles—Mr. H. Freke, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Phipps, Messrs. Griffens, Camera, Laub, A. Lan, Père Raoult, Messrs. Melochi and Rozani. From Singapore—Mr. H. W. Andrews. For Kobe from Singapore—Mrs. Olica, Mr. Th. Thies, Mrs. Imita, Mrs. Otta, Mrs. Oohika. For Yokohama from Marseilles—Mr. J. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Masleikoff, Messrs. Matsugata, Sugita, Yanagisawa, Père Faurie, Misses Lesueur and

Bornans, Capt. Million, and Mr. Tonnega Fokounaga. From Port Said—Messrs. Rotcharoff and N. Mailoff. From Singapore—Mr. J. Campbell. From Saigon—Mr. Merck.

Per *Thales*, str., from Taiwanfoo, &c.—Master Hatherley.

Per *Pera*, str., from San Francisco &c.—Messrs. Norman Macdonald, Henry Macdonald, G. Stafford Northcote, E. W. Maitland, L. Ferguson, G. C. Bouman, W. A. Duff, Duncan Clarke, S. D. Moonshee, H. Nemazee, W. Kmake, H. J. Emmett, E. D. W. Taber, W. B. Vanderlip, Mrs. L. Harling, Miss Elsie Adair, and Miss Lillie Jardyne.

Per *Pyrhus*, str., from Liverpool, &c.—Mr. Kalm.

Per *Japan*, str., from Yokohama for Singapore—Mr. R. C. Petherbridge. From Shanghai for London—Mr. W. C. Hillier and 2 children. For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Hillier and 3 children, and Mr. Curson. From Foochow for London—Mrs. and Master Brevett Taylor. For Hongkong—Mr. Naze.

Per *Haimun*, steamer, from Coast Ports—Messrs. Denison and Mehta.

Per *Loongmoon*, str., from Shanghai—Messrs. Zundel, Blesing, Namura, Thomson, Marshall, and Rev. Paul.

Per *Taiyuan*, str., from Yokohama, &c.—Mr. Robinson.

Per *Catherine Apar*, str., from Calcutta, &c.—Messrs. Henderson, and Theo Seng Kong, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Descours, Mr. Tresilian, Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Selisaker, and Mr. Ah Wah.

Per *Mcefoo*, str., from Shanghai—Mr. Moller.

Per *Foochow*, str., from Chefoo—Mr. Von Riatz.

Per *Guthrie*, str., from Sydney—Messrs. P. E. Morse, M. H. Grobien, and J. Joseph. From Sydney for Kobe—Mrs. Mola.

Per *Esmeralda*, str., from Manila—Messrs. Coombs, Balbas, Hamersley, Evans, Moage, Foreman, Merlee (French Navy), Theraulde, F.N., Rambain, F.N., Hardy, F.N. and 225 Chinese.

Per *Rohilla*, str., for Hongkong from London—Dr. Syngé, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. McNair, Mrs. Irwin, Mr. and Mrs. Langley, Messrs. T. Gloyn and Wright, Sub-Lieut. Williams, Mr. Hickish, From Gibraltar—Mr. Andrade. From Brindisi—Messrs. Hockridge, Barlow, Beazley, and Miss Naess, and Mr. D. S. Moore. From Bombay—Messrs. J. Pestonjee, Nowrojee, Talati, R. Kavaji, Ardeshir, and Subja. From Penang—Capt. H. Ross. From Singapore—Lieut. G. A. C. Taylor, Messrs. Low Sum, Cheung Poon, and Gan Choo Kah. For Shanghai from London—Rev. C. Bousfield, Rev. Thompson, Messrs. W. Bull and E. Clarke, Misses Kirkwood, McQuillan, and Ghey, Rev. C. J. and Mrs. Symons and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Harvie, Mr. and Mrs. Huntley, infant and 2 children. From Brindisi—Mr. L. Souheur. From Colombo—Mr. Lemon. From Singapore—Mrs. Savinoff and Miss Cameron. For Yokohama from London—Miss Gordon, Miss Bristowe, and Mr. Inglis. From Brindisi—Capt. Nebogalov. From Aden—Mr. B. R. Miller. From Singapore—Mr. L. S. Lewis. For Kobe from London—Mr. Hamond and Rev. Chapman. From Singapore—Mr. L. M. Hegt. For Nagasaki from London—Mr. Painter. For Manila from Brindisi—Mr. Stewart.

Per *Coptic*, str., from San Francisco, &c.—Messrs. C. F. Villiers, Chapman, A. M. Hankinson, H. Hennessey, O'Shea, W. J. Gorham, and Mrs. W. K. McKibben and child, Mrs. S. E. Russell, Mrs. M. R. Norris, Mrs. and Miss Law, Mrs. and Miss McCormick, and Dr. Fred. Sprague and 246 Chinese.

Per *Ravenna*, str., from Shanghai for Hongkong—Messrs. Lai Chee Sung and Durbourgh. For London—Mr. Jurdon. From Yokohama for London—Mr. Menpes.

Per *Verona*, str., from Yokohama for Hongkong—Messrs. R. W. Almond and Hands. For Bombay—Mr. T. Takayanaki. For Ismailia—Messrs. M. C. Nason and J. W. Innes. For Brindisi—Misses Birnstingl and G. Birnstingl. For London—General C. D. Flagg and Mr. D. Aleck. From Kobe for Hongkong—Mrs. Lam Tsun and Mrs. Ching. For Singapore—Mr. Shibuya. From Nagasaki for Hongkong—Messrs. Wangpoo, A. P. Stokes, F. G. Stockwell.

Per *Empress of Japan*, str., from Vancouver &c.—Messrs. L. Grant, Woo Yik Nam, H. Cecil, F. X. Remedios, G. Goodwin, Capt. Lloyd and son, Messrs. H. Allix, Chang Hock How, M. Jones, L. Trapman, H. W. Uloth, Miss G. Palmer, Mrs. C. L. Kingale, Hon. Mrs. W. Napier, Miss Napier, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Cummings, Mrs. and Miss Gorham, Mrs. J. H. Bonis, Mr. and Mrs. T. Read, Messrs. Soon Ho Chan and Ho Tit Seng, Mr. and Mrs. H. Simpson, Misses Chamberlain and Gregg, Mr. and Mrs. C. Hale, Mrs. and Miss Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, Messrs. C. R. Galloway and H. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. F. Bond, Miss D. Gorrie.

DEPARTED.

Per *Hanoi*, str., for Hoihow—H.E. General Viscount Kawakami, Lieut. Col. J. Jichi, Lieut. Col. Murata, Major Akashi, Mr. Y. Sekiya, Count de Pemodan, Capt. G. Vlavianos, and Mr. Querin.

Per *Hailoong*, str., for Amoy—Messrs. Jacobson and Basilio José.

Per *Belgie*, str., for Shanghai—Messrs. J. E. Gibson, F. L. Harrison, McGarity, Bergerman, and M. Yamashita, Mr. and Mrs. Rosario, Mrs. J. J. Leiria, Capt. R. Tipple. For Nagasaki—Mrs. Reich. For Yokohama—Mr. Meyer. For San Francisco—Miss Bellen Brugman, Miss E. E. Smith, and Mr. C. Brown. For London—Mr. E. Young, Lieut. C. H. Jalger, and Paymaster E. Unger.

Per *Polyphemus*, str., for Shanghai—Messrs. H. Burton and A. Nicol.

Per *Lyceum*, str., for Shanghai—Messrs. Diederichsen and Bonachna.

Per *Formosa*, str., for Amoy—Mr. Spatz.

Per *Empress of India*, str., for Amoy—Messrs. Nebreka and B. Jose. For Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. Bell-Irving, Messrs. Thos. Elliott, W. G. Ross, and F. Bornemann. For Yokohama—Messrs. H. W. Arthur, R. Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Holm, governess and 2 children, and Miss Focke. For Victoria—Mrs. Ah Yute, Mrs. Shing Lee, Mrs. Chat Lum She, For New York—Mrs. Ah Len and 2 daughters, Mrs. Wong She and 3 children, Mrs. Chin Fa Fik. For London—Mr. H. W. Smyth.

Per *Yarra*, str., from Hongkong for Shanghai—Mrs. E. Santos Silva. For Kobe—Mr. Imury.

Per *Melbourne*, str., from Hongkong for Saigon—Messrs. G. F. Rottger and Edwards. For Singapore—Miss C. M. McCormick, Messrs. Barbour, Lathrop and Liang Teng, Mr. and Mrs. B. Lathrop. For Colombo—Bro. Adrien. For Port Said—Messrs. M. Prowe and S. Berg. For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Richards, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Marshall, Mrs. Amelia Fornellos, Mrs. Emma d'Almeida and 2 children, Messrs. G. H. Black, M. Kato, A. Salver, Ng Shan Chun, Lieuts. P. Callot, P. Hubert, and L. Niveat.

Per *Menmuir*, str., for Timor—Mrs. Maria da Costa Garcia, Ensigns Tavares and Martho, Messrs. Newton, Alvares, D. Rodrigues and J. M. Basto, Sister Maria Jose, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Gomes, Misses M. Machado, Nathalia de Conceicao, Maria Immaculada da Costa, and Joaquina da Costa. For Australia—Mr. and Mrs. Roach and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Findlay and child, and Mrs. Begener.

Per *Ask*, str., for Pakhoi—Mr. and Mrs. Figg.

Per *Cephalonia*, troopship, on 23rd Nov.—To Colombo (for India)—2nd Lieut. H. F. E. Lewin. To Southampton—Lieut. Hitching, Mrs. Hitching and five children, Mr. H. E. Boxshall and Mrs. Boxshall and child, Mrs. Eccles and child, Surgeon-Majors R. O. Gunning, F. M. Baker, and H. E. R. James, Mrs. Moore, and Lieut. Langford.

Per *Oceana*, str., for Yokohama—Mr. Hiraly.

Per *Kutsang*, str., for Singapore—Messrs. G. C. Bouman, and E. W. D. Faber.

Per *Haimun*, str., for Swatow—Surg. Capt. Edys. For Amoy—Mr. and Mrs. S. Luna and 3 children, Miss Eutaria de Souza.

Per *Haitan*, str., for Swatow—Rev. T. Guilame, Rev. Gauthier, and Mr. Wong Sen Ham. For Amoy—Mr. C. May, Mr. Ng Chit Mi. For Foochow—Mrs. Chas. Moore, Mr. Kinneer, Mr. and Mrs. Acheong, Mr. A. Gensburger, Rev. Dr. Syngé, Mr. J. Wood, and Capt. Hunt. For Shanghai via Foochow—Mr. E. B. Morse.

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